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TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE

Read the Finance Primer.

FOURTH PAGE.

VOLUME LIX. TOLEDO, OHIO: THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1891. NUMBER 17.

Our Story Teller.

THE COSMIC BEAN;

Or the Great Show in Kobol-land.

BY FRANK R. STOCKTON.

Written for THE BLADE. Copyright, 1891.

CHAPTER V.

THE BARE-BACKED GRIFFIN AND THE SPELLING BEE.

Slowly uprose the great griffin into the air, Prince Atto standing upright on his back. This was not a difficult feat, nor an unsafe one, so long as the griffin's tail, by which Atto steadied himself, remained stiffly in position. As the first gentle circle above the arena was made, Atto looked a little pale, but he felt that his position was secure and bowed and smiled as shouts of applause came up from the great multitude.

This griffin was a monster of a very hot and revengeful disposition, and his anger against Atto for deserting him and preventing his performance on the first day had not in the least cooled, and although his manner toward the young man had been very mild, he had determined that, during this act, he would punish him for his treachery.

On the second grand tour, during which the griffin flew much more rapidly than before, his tail was raised higher in the air, so that Atto, still clinging to it, was obliged to stand on the tips of his toes. The prince shouted to the griffin to lower his tail, but the latter paid no attention to him, but flew faster and faster, darting upward and downward, and from one side to the other.

Now the tail was stuck perpendicularly upward, and Atto clung to it, as he would to the mast of a tossing ship. Then, without the least warning, and in the midst of a wild swoop, the tail went straight out behind, and Atto found himself hanging beneath it, his legs and arms turned about it, as if it had been a horizontal bar in a gymnasium.

Nearly frightened out of his wits, the young prince began to shout for help, and as he did so the griffin swung his tail from right to left, and sometimes dipped it downward, so that Atto's feet were higher than his head. The flights became swifter and wilder than before, and mounting high into the air, the griffin suddenly dropped downward as if he would strike the earth, but before reaching it, rose again with a great woop and recommenced his mad gyrations above the people's heads.

During this astounding and blood-thrilling performance every breath was held and every heart beat fast. Even the living monsters of Kobol-land had never known of anything like this. Every one was wild with admiration at Atto's amazing strength and courage. His cries had been heard, but it was supposed that he was shouting to his steed and urging him to swifter speed. But the griffin did not intend that Atto should get any credit for his performance. He understood the applause, and having thoroughly frightened the prince, he proceeded to let the public know what sort of a man this bold rider really was.

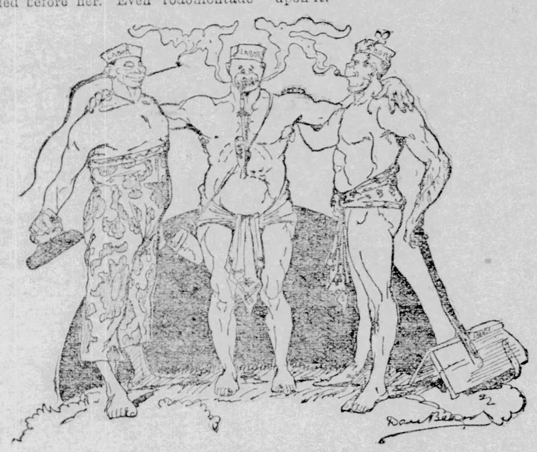
He curled up his tail so that Atto was able to scramble on his back and set astride of him; then he sailed slowly around the arena not very far above the heads of the spectators. Atto now began to cry piteously for help. He besought the King, the Queen Lista, anybody, to stop the monster and take him down. He declared that he had not wanted to do this thing, that he had been forced into it, and if the griffin began again to rush through the air he should certainly fall to the ground and be killed. He wiped his weeping eyes with the scant Millice had given him, and when it was thoroughly wet he threw it to the ground.

Many of the spectators pitied the prince, but more laughed at him. The Kobol-landers were delighted; here was a grand victory by one of themselves over a human being of high degree.

But the griffin was resolved that Atto should not even be pitied. Presently a young dragon came toward him, bearing a large banner with an inscription upon it. This the monster took in his fore-paws, and holding it high over his head, continued his slow course. The inscription, in great black letters, read as follows:

"The fellow on my back has been punished for playing false with a griffin and trying to cheat a gardener."

As nearly all the people of Tanobar and Nustryia were interested in gardening and gardeners, and all the inhabitants of Kobol-land sympathized with



ATHLETES WAITING THEIR TURN AT THE GAMES.

she spelled without an *h*, although "rhododendron" had been given out a little while before.

When Prince Atto, who had not shown himself since his griffin act, heard there was to be a spelling bee, he was anxious to take part for he was very proud of his abilities as a speller, and feeling that he might now regain some of the reputation he had lost the day before, he ventured into the arena. He had changed his clothes and was not recognized by the greater part of the crowd, but the judges knew him and they gave him the hardest words they could think of. However, they found no fault with his spelling until he came to the word "xylophagan," and then the queen of the fairies cried out, "Wrong, he should spell it with a 'z.'"

"I beg your pardon," said the learned man, "but if I am not mistaken the word begins with an x as he spelled it."

"Nonsense," exclaimed the the fairy queen, whose face had begun to glow with indignation the moment she had perceived Atto, "you need not try to make me believe that a cowardly cheat such as that fellow understands spelling better than I do. No one can hear the word without knowing that it begins with a z. What say you, wizard?"

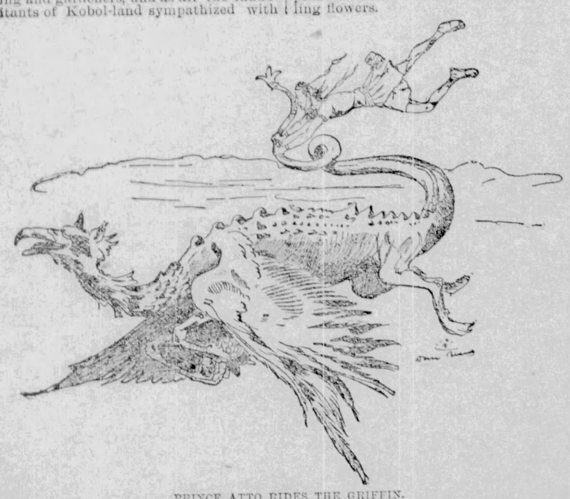
The wizard, who knew on which side his bread was buttered, replied to the fairy queen that he agreed with her perfectly. The learned man, with two against him could, do no more, and Atto was told to sit down.

The athletic games ended with a grand football match, in which there were hundreds of players. The contest was very exciting, and Lista became so wildly enthusiastic that she fairly scolded Chamian for not joining in this grand sport.

"Oh, if I were only a man," she cried, "I would show you how I would kick."

But Chamian did not care to take part in this game. He had begun to think more of his dignity, and therefore restrained his inclination to enter the rough and tumble scramble in the arena. During the applause which followed the exploits of a jet black centaur, with a curly head and enormous hind hoofs, Chamian left Lista and went to the pavilion of Millice. He learned that she had left the arena and gone to see the last of the flower show. Joining her there he found her in conversation with the griffin.

"Yes," the monster was saying, "you are the only person in all that crowd who had the courage to speak to me and ask me to stop tormenting that poor rascal, and in order to show you how I appreciate your brave spirit I am going to give you my prize chrysanthemum," and he therefore presented her with the great plant covered with its fiery and sparkling flowers.



PRINCE ATTO RIDES THE GRIFFIN.

griffins, a yell of derision arose from the crowd. But Atto paid little attention to this, nor did he even look upward to read the inscription. All he cared for was to get down from the griffin's back, and he continued to weep and beg and pray that some man, woman, giant, or even gnome or fairy, would take pity on him.

Now uprose Queen Millice, and as the flying monster passed near her, she cried out to him:

"Good Griffin, he has had enough of punishment. I beg that you will take him to his tent and leave him there."

At these words the griffin turned, and Atto began to pour out thanks to the young queen, but she did not so much as look at him, and the griffin carried him to his tent and dumped him off at the door.

The griffin's performance was much enjoyed by those people of Tanobar who had a contempt for Nustyrians, by those Nustyrians who had a contempt for Atto, and by those Kobol-landers who had a contempt for human beings.

The entertainment of the next afternoon began with something of a totally different character from the griffin act. This was a spelling bee, and the judges were a learned man, a wizard, and the queen of the fairies. As Millice had done nothing so far, she thought it but right that she should enter this contest. Among the competitors were Chamian and Lista, many persons attached to the courts of the two countries, and a miscellaneous lot of Kobol-landers.

The words given out by the judges were generally very odd and unusual ones, and a good deal of the spelling of the competitors was even more odd and unusual. All the afrites, gnomes, dragons, genii and other inhabitants of Kobol-land spoke the languages of the adjoining countries. For if these strange and semi natural creatures could not use and comprehend the speech of man they would lose a greater part of the interest which has always attached to them, but few of them knew anything about reading or writing their ideas of spelling were mystical and vague.

When a goat-legged satyr spelled "supersapient" as a word of two letters beginning and ending with y, and when a bottle-green imp, perched on the shoulders of a giant in order that he might see and be seen, spelled "gormandizer" with the figures 1, 8, 4, 3, it was plain that they knew what they wanted to spell if they did not know how to do it.

King Chamian did very well, although he failed on some five-syllabled word, but Lista spelled "euphemistic" *youphumistic*, and when the judges, seeing she was not at home in this class of words, gave her "saddle," she spelled it with one d, and the e where the l ought to be.

Queen Millice was by all odds the best speller on the grounds, and the audience became quite enthusiastic at her success with every word given her, no matter how hard it was, or how many had failed before her. Even "rodomontade"

The young queen played with her fan. "Do you think it could be made wide enough?" she asked.

"Oh, I will see to that," he exclaimed. "And we shall each wear the crown we inherited?" said she.

"Indeed we shall," he cried, "and you shall be doubly queen—queen as my wife, and queen as your father's child."

The eyes of Millice sparkled as she looked upon the noble and glowing face of Chamian.

"And you shall be the king that you are," she said, "and my king besides."

When it was proclaimed that Millice and Chamian were to marry, and that there was to be but one royal family in Tanobar, the joy of the people knew no bounds. But in the midst of the universal happiness the minister of Agriculture stood shocked and downcast. He had not expected this blow, but he was a man of action, and he felt that if he made any hay at all he must do it while the sun shone, so he hastened to the king.

"Your majesty," said he, "as a proof of my rapturous delight on this glad day I wish to offer you the best I have—the result of my life's most earnest labors. I give to you my Cosmic Bean. It gained four prizes at the great show, and its value is now undoubted. Take it, my king; Through you I give it to my country."

"How many plants have you?" asked the king.

"I have twenty plants," answered Gromline; "they are here in these pots, which my servants have brought you."

"And have you any seeds or slips besides?" inquired Chamain.

THE HERALD.

"None, your Majesty," said the minister, "but there are pods there which will soon be ripe, and you will have seeds enough to spread broadcast over the kingdom."

"Very good," said Chamian. "I accept your gift."

When the king next saw Millice, he found her admiring her chrysanthemum and her cup-of-tea plant.

"I, too, have had a horticultural present," he said, and he told her of Gromline's gift of the Cosmic Bean.

"That is the plant which will make it unnecessary for people to work, is it not?" she asked.

"Yes," he said, "and I want to consult you as to what shall be done with it."

"It is my opinion," said Millice, "that if we do not wish to be King and Queen of Lazyland, it will be well to utterly destroy this plant. For if no one need work, no one would work, and in the course of time we should become as cattle, and live on beans as they live on grass."

"You speak well," said the king, "and I agree with you entirely." And he ordered the twenty plants of the Cosmic bean, pots and all, to be cast into a furnace and burned up.

Shortly after this had been done the Sorcerer called on the Minister of Agriculture and found him in a very angry mood, and engaged in picking up his goods and chattels.

"I am going to leave this wretched country," said Gromline, "everything has gone wrong. Your advice about getting up the great show in Kobol-land was worse than worthless, and you ought to repay me the seventy sequins I gave you for it."

"I don't do business in that way," said the Sorcerer. I consider that the advice was worth double the money. It made you a positive benefactor to your country. In your efforts to create dissensions in the land, and by means of your universal food, to put yourself at the head of a mob of lazy people, whom you would cheat into the belief that you would allow them to live without work, you have brought together our King and Queen who otherwise might never have found out how well suited to each other they were. You have cultivated friendly relations between Tanobar and Nustyria, and above all, in endeavoring to work upon the generous feelings of the king you have put out of existence that baleful plant, which would have taken from men the incentive to the improvement of their condition, and so I say there never was a grander success than the Great Show in Kobol-land."

"Away with you," cried Gromline, and went on with his packing.

THE END.

A GREAT SCHEME.

A Jovial New Yorker's Plan for Breaking the Drink Habit.

"I read something the other day," said a jovial fellow who is classed among the "good fellows," "about breaking off the drink habit. I have been a drinking man for a number of years, drinking as much for the good fellowship of the thing as for anything else. And this kind of drinking, I want you to understand, is the worst way to drink. My wife is the most sensible woman in the world. She never tried to get me to give up the rum habit, but what she did say to me was this: 'Now, Frank, you are very likely to injure your health if you keep up this drinking habit. Why don't you limit yourself to so many drinks a day? Of course if you were to break off entirely you would feel disgusted with yourself when you really wanted to drink. But allow yourself so many a day to go on and use those up as you see fit.' Of course my wife is always right in everything she advises, so I tried it. I always allowed myself six drinks a day. Now here's the funny part of it. I was so afraid that I might exhaust my six and then find that I wanted one that I hoarded them up until late in the day. The result was that I frequently came home with some of my drinks to my credit. 'Jen,' I said to my wife, 'your scheme works beautifully; only I find my limit is too high. I seldom reach it now.' 'Well,' she said, 'try five then.' 'No,' I answered, 'I'll try four.' I tried four and generally had something coming to me, so I cut it down to two. Sometimes I do not take a drink at all. Meanwhile my wife smiles and tells me that I am a sensible man and I begin to believe her."—[N. Y Tribune.

Poetry.

FOR THE BLADE.

"THE VOICE OF THE BOARDING-HOUSE FOWL."

BY M. GEORGIA ORMOND.

If your molars are sound,
And your canines all ground,
I think you'll pronounce me quite tender.
Please sample my wing—
A delicate thing;
But, meanwhile, I beg you remember
I'm only a chicken
That missed early pickin';
I've mourned at many elections;
I lost all my pride
And lay down and died,
When politics soured my reflections.

MY LADY.

She is not fair to outward view,
As many maidens be;
And into such a rage she flew,
On learning this from me;
And yet she's lovely, nay divine,
Judged by her own peculiar line.

She's deeply read. She know's as much
As average sixth-form boys;
But not the greatest sage could touch
The high, aggressive joys
That imp her wing, like birds of prey
When in my dates I go astray.

Not only learning's pure serene
Her souring mind can charm;
The tradesman, shrinking from a scene,
Regards her with alarm;
And many a 'bus conductor owns
The power of her metallic tones.

Contentiously content, she takes
Her strident way through life,
And goodness only knows what makes
Her choose to be my wife.
Courage, poor heart! Thy yearnings stifle.
She's not a girl with whom to trifle.
—[Punch.

THE HAYSEED.

We can all of us remember
How along about September
The papers used to tell of the caucus or the fair;
And those fellows from the city
Used to get almighty witty
On the fellow with the duster, who had hayseed in his hair.

They had fun in Legislaters
With the unwashed potaters,
If by any hook or crook or chance elected and sent there:
And those reportorial friskers
Used to comment on the whiskers
And the necktie and the cowlick of Billson, who had hayseed in his hair.

Yes, by gum, he rode his pass out,
And he used to hear the gas out,
And he used to drink hard cider when he went out on a tear;
And he used to squeeze the dollar
Till the buzzard used to holler;
The man cut up ridiculous that had hayseed in his hair.

But, by gum, if you've been reading
You'll observe a strange proceeding;
'Tis the fellow with chin whiskers that is slowly getting there;
And it won't be too surprising
If, by slowly organizing,
Old parties may wake up and find the hayseed in their hair.

When the fashions change, you fellers
Will all carry green umbrellas,
And trousers wide across the seat, to make the dudicts stare;
And in those days, if you pass muster,
You must wear a linen duster,
And if you want to throw on style, put hayseed in your hair.
[St. Paul—Pioneer-Press.

PICKINGS FROM PUCK.

It Makes a Difference.

Mrs. Fogg—Goodness mercy! The new dining room carpet is ruined. Somebody has spilled a whole lot of oil, and made a great big grease spot in the center of it.

Mr. Fogg—You must have done it yourself, mother, when you filled the lamp.

Mrs. Fogg—Oh, perhaps I did; never mind; I guess it will evaporate.

Their Meeting.

Miss Downes—My brother, Upson said he met you on the other side—just as you ran out of Berlin.

Mr. Rounds (sadly)—Yes; I remember very well. I met your brother just as he ran out of cash.

Very Mortifying.

"His affliction is dreadful mortification to Hoffy."

"What is the trouble?"

"He has an ingrowing mustache."

At the Heclamet.

"Phew! These oystahs are vile. Taithi like coppah."

"Yes. Just like London oysters."

"Reahly! Waitah, a dozen moah oystahs."

A Thought.

The sweetest songs are always those
That in the soul are spent;
The minute that you whistle them
It busts the sentiment.

Expire Together.

"On what date does Congress usually adjourn?"

"That depends entirely on the size of the surplus to be expended."

Nephews and Nieces.

The Professor—Did you ever read that romantic old novel, "The Children of the Abbey?"

Miss Ingenue—Why, I didn't know an abbe ever had children!—[Puck.

He Was Off.

He was getting a shine on his boots as he leaned up against the postoffice building, and, observing that the bootblack had a black eye, he remarked:

"I am afraid you are prone to belligerency, my son."

"What's them?" asked the lad.

"You have been engaged in a physical contest."

"I don't catch."

"In other words, you resorted to muscular force where argument would, no doubt, have been far better."

The boy rubbed away for a while and tried to straighten the kinks out of the several expressions, and then suddenly looked up and queried:

"Oh? you mean my black eye, don't you?"

"Of course I do."

"You mean that I've bin in a fight?"

"Yes."

"And got licked?"

"Perhaps. It is very sad to see one so young walking in the path which leads to sin and disgrace."

"You're off, old man—way off!" replied the lad, with a good deal of spirit, as he chucked his brushes into his box. "I wasn't scrappin' wid none of de kids. Seven big fellers was a-robbin' of a man on Second avenue de odder night, an' I jumped in an' saved him an' his boodle, and got dis eye for me reward."

"Oh, that's it! Then I am sorry to have said anything. I hope I didn't hurt your feelings. Here's a nickel extra."

"My feelin's was hurted, sir, but dis makes it all right. Scrap wid a kid! Never, sir!"

"That's right, my boy! A brave boy will not fight when he can avoid it."

"No, sir, and besides, it was his elbow he hit me wid, and all by accident, and de way I did lamb de stuffin' outer dat messenger boy and made him holler would hev made all your hair climb right up! Thankee, sir; I'm allus open to advice!"—[N. Y Sun.

Our Serial Story.

Written expressly for The Blade. Copyrighted 1891, by the Toledo Blade Co.

A WILL OF HIS OWN

BY OLIVER OPTIC.

CHAPTER XIV.

AN ASTOUNDING REVELATION.

Laud Steele moved off very leisurely, as though he was in no hurry to confront his father. Though Lark had been the principal in the scene which preceded his departure, and though the young tyrant's menace had been directed against him, Cyril was hardly less affected. When Lark should be reinstated in the good graces of his father, as he was likely to be in a few days, it would be a solemn question of bread and butter with one as well as the other.

If they refused to go with him wherever he intended to go, they were sure to be driven out of the Rockwood club, and just as sure to have the hostility and bitter enmity of Laud in the future.

"My father will certainly be turned out of the bank," said Lark in a low tone, as Land walked away.

"And mine is almost as sure to lose his place as overseer," added Cy.

Doubtless both of them were correct. Laud would tell his own story, and at the best, Cy would be implicated for his support of Laud in his rebellion. But Lark's father would surely be the first sufferer, and the idea of having his father dismissed from the bank was absolutely terrible. He felt that he could save him, though it might be at the sacrifice of himself. He could not hesitate, and he ran after the young tyrant. He felt that he was placed in a very trying situation.

Laud had been looking over his shoulder all the time in the darkness, expecting to be called back, for he felt that he had Lark in a trap from which he could not escape. If the cashier's son yielded, the overseer's was likely to follow his example.

"Laud," called Lark, in as loud a tone as he dared to use.

"Well, what do you want now?" demanded the tyrant, as he halted till his victim came up with him.

"I have made up my mind to go with you," replied Lark.

"Oh, you have! Well, I don't know that I care to let up on you now," added Laud, who really wanted to be teased to adopt his own plan. "You refused once, and perhaps I had better let you settle it with your father to-morrow, after he has been turned out of the bank."

"I am willing to do just as you say," pleaded Lark, in tones humble enough to satisfy the tyrant.

"What does Cy say? I can't do anything without both of you; and I am not willing to leave a fellow behind who might blow on us," said Laud.

"I will go, too," added Cy, who had come up in season to hear what was said. "I am as deep in the mud as Lark is in the mire, and I shall not hang back."

"Don't go with me, either of you, if you don't want to," added Laud. "I can face the racket here if you can."

"We will both go," replied Lark, as they followed the tyrant back to the bench on the shore.

They both did what Laud wanted them to do—they begged for the privilege of going with him. The cashier's son knew that his father might look for a year before he found another place. He had failed in business with the sympathy of his creditors, and they had used all their influence with the magnate to obtain this position for him. Mr. Dilloway had not taught his son to do right without regard to the consequences, for he had not felt that he was in position to teach such lofty doctrine.

The boys all seated themselves as they had been before, and Laud realized that he could have everything his own way. Both of his rebellious subjects had been humiliated, and he had won the victory for which he had fought, or rather for which he had plotted. He was sure of his associates now, and he did not hesitate to speak out just what he meant, and what he intended to do.

"My route is down the lakes," said he, though as he spoke he indulged in a long gape, for the excitement had moderated with the yielding of his companions. "To tell the truth I am about tired out, and so sleepy I can hardly keep my eyes open."

He was no worse off than his two friends, for all of them had been hard at work during the day, especially the two who had done the rowing. All of them had been in a fever of excitement all the afternoon, and this is quite as wearing as hard exercise.

"But we have no boat," suggested Cy, not at all pleased with the announcement of the leader, for he knew who would have to pull the boat eight or ten miles in the darkness.

"Do you think I am a ninny to plan a trip on the lakes without a boat?" demanded Laud, with another gape.

"Of course you know what you are about, as you always do," replied Cy, giving another small dose of flattery. "The Josie is smashed, and as a matter of curiosity, I should like to know where your boat is coming from?"

"Who smashed the Josie?" asked Laud.

"The fellows in the Sylvia, of course."

"Then it is right that they should provide a boat for this excursion, isn't it?"

"Certainly it is," replied Cy, promptly enough to satisfy the enterprising leader.

"Then we shall not put off the trip for the want of a boat."

"But how are you going to get the Sylvia, Laud?" asked Lark, almost appalled at the very first detail of the plan.

"Simply take her, as we did this afternoon."

"But she is locked up in the boat-house, and the doctor's two men sleep in a room on the first floor of it," added Lark, hoping they would be unable to obtain the Sylvia.

"That's bad; we ought to have taken her before the men went to bed, as I suppose they have done before this time, for the clock has just struck 10," said Laud, gaping again; and it was plain enough to his companions that he was not in physical condition for the work of the night. "When can we get the boat?"

"You can't get it to-night, sure," replied Lark, becoming somewhat more hopeful.

"What shall we do then?" asked Laud, who had become quite tame under the influence of the fatigue that beset him.

It was a hard question to answer, for there was not another boat in the place, except some little ones kept in the houses of the owners. But Lark did some thinking, and he was soon able to say something.

"It is plain enough to me that we can not leave to-night for the want of a boat," said he.

"But we must go to-night," protested Laud.

"But if we can not, how can we?

"I shall be caught in the morning," suggested the leader.

"I can take care of that matter, and I will promise that you shall not be caught. We are poor folks, for my father has been paying off a debt on our house, and we don't keep any help; I have to make my own bed, and take care of my room, to save my mother so much work."

"What has all that to do with it?" demanded Laud.

"My chamber is over the woodshed, and you can sleep there with me to-night. We can go up the stairs from the shed without going into the house at all," replied Lark. "Besides we are all too tired to leave to-night."

"Then has any one looked out for the rations?" asked Cy. "We shall want something to eat."

"We can get plenty to eat when we get to Donganna, added Laud, his eyes half closed he was so sleepy.

"But it is a ten-mile pull to Donganna; and we shall have to keep out of sight till we get there," said Cy.

"You had better appoint Cy the commissary of the expedition, and let him provide the rations," added Lark. "You can get all we shall want at the lunch room."

"But the man that keeps it is an unreasonable fellow, and he will make me pay for it. The bank is closed and I can't cash a check to-night."

Laud gave him a bank bill, saying it was five dollars, and he did not have to take it from his stolen funds. How to obtain the Sylvia from the boat house the next morning was too big a question to be considered while they were all so tired, and Cy hastened to reach the lunch-room at the railroad station before it was closed, after the arrival of the last train for the night at eleven.

Laud was not sorry for the change of programme, for he was so worn out that he could hardly drag one foot after the other. Lark conducted him to the rear of his father's house. Every light was put out, and the family had retired. The door of the woodshed was unlocked, and the two boys crept up to the chamber. A lamp was lighted, and in three minutes more, the son of the magnate was sound asleep.

Lark was more accustomed to hard work than his guest, and he was not so tired. He had embarked in a bad enterprise, and when he was in bed he could not help thinking of the events of the day, and the expulsion, as Laud called it, for the next day. But sleep surprised him before he could arrange in what manner the Sylvia was to be captured. He was tired enough to sleep like a rock, and he did not wake till six in the morning.

Laud was still in a profound slumber. He had thrown his clothes on a chair, evidently forgetting for the time the treasure he had laid up in the breast pocket of his coat. When his bedfellow had dressed himself, and was about to leave the room, he thought some one might see his companion's clothes, for the chair stood by a window. He took the precaution to carry the chair to the rear of the room. In doing so, the coat fell off.

The owner had doubled it with the lining outside, and as it lay on the floor, Lark could not help seeing the ends of the package of bank-bills protruding from the pocket, which was not deep enough to conceal it entirely. Probably the cashier's son had as much curiosity as the average boy of sixteen, and he could not well avoid making a further examination of the contents of that pocket.

With his back to the bed, he drew the package from the pocket and opened it. It contained a bundle of bills, not less than three-quarters of an inch in thickness. On it was the label in his father's handwriting, "$5,000." Lark was appalled, almost stunned by this revelation. He felt absolutely sure on the instant that the magnate did not give his son money in such sums as that marked on the package. It was as sadly forced upon his understanding that Laud had taken the bills from the vault of the bank.

The poor boy, who had been struggling in the trap his leader had set for him, was overwhelmed, not for his own sake, but on his father's account. Laud had lied to him, for he must have taken the money from the vault. The loss of the package would be discovered in a few hours more. The bank had not been broken open, but the money was gone, and his father was sure to be the sufferer, even if he was not accused of stealing the large sum.

The first thing that Lark did was to put the money into his own pocket; and the next was to leave the room and the sleeper. One of the reasons he had given why he could not go on the excursion was that he had to open the bank, sweep out, and make the fire, for which he was paid by the institution. He was to perform this duty on this day, and he hoped he should have an opportunity to dispose of the package. He took his breakfast with the family, and then carried up some food from the pantry while his mother was occupied with the younger children.

Laud was still asleep, and he left the eatables on a chair. His father went to the bank at eight, and by that time he had done his work. The vault was opened, Lark swept it out, and slipped the package into the drawer.

CHAPTER XV.

THE EMBARKATION OF THE EXPEDITION.

Lark Dilloway had told Laud the night before that he had to do his work in the morning, and that he could not finish it before half-past eight. He warned him not to leave the room where he had slept till he came for him. It was Saturday, and there was no school. The guest, for his own safety, had heeded these instructions; in fact he had not waked from his tired slumbers till very nearly the time when he was to expect his friend to come to him. He found the food on the chair, and proceeded to dispose of it before he got up.

The cashier had opened the vault before he read the weekly paper, and Lark had restored the package of bills to the drawer where he knew such bundles belonged, for he had sometimes helped his father do his work at the bank. When he had done so he felt an immense load removed from his mind. The runaway business became an easy matter now that he had saved his father from any possible charge at the bank, except possibly, that of permitting the young magnate to go into the vault to hide himself.

But it soon occurred to him that there would be a tremendous tempest when Laud discovered that he had lost his package. The loss of it seemed to render the runaway expedition unnecessary; but Lark began to consider that this might compromise his relations with the magnate's son, for he might charge him with taking it from his pocket while he was asleep. He had put the newspaper wrapper into his pocket when he took the money from it. On his way home, when he was about to throw the paper away, it occurred to him that he could at least postpone the explosion that was sure to come until after Laud had left the house.

He procured an old newspaper, and cut it up so that the parts might feel like bank bills, and then inclosed them in the original wrapper. He made the package of the same size and thickness as that he had taken from the pocket, and it seemed to him to look and feel just like the one he had taken from it. Thus prepared he went up to his chamber to call Laud.

He found the fugitive still in bed, eating the breakfast brought to him. It was not such a meal as he would have had at the grand mansion of his father, but he was quite satisfied with it, and he was even willing to admit that Mrs. Dilloway was an excellent cook, for the doughnuts and dried-apple pie were excellent. He had an abundance, and he consumed the whole, for he was a growing boy, and his appetite was ten times as good as his moral sense.

"I moved your clothes over from the window when I got up, for I was afraid some one would see them, the curtains are so short," said Lark, after he had passed the time of day with his guest, as he proceeded to take the garments from the chair where he had placed them.

In doing so he slipped the package he had made up into the pocket from which he had taken the one containing the money. It was not of the value of $5,000, but it would answer his purpose quite as well. Laud was not likely to open the bundle in the presence of another person, and it might be some hours, perhaps some days, before he discovered that his ill-gotten riches had taken to themselves wings, just as they might have done if they had been honestly amassed.

"What's the weather, Lark?" asked Laud, as his host placed his clothes on a chair by the side of his bed.

"The wind is southwest, and the lake is covered with fog, as the shore was when I got up this morning," replied Lark.

"That won't be bad for us," said the magnate's son.

"No; not if we can find our way to The Pass."

"We can feel for it," answered Laud, as he began to dress himself.

Lark seated himself where he could see under the short curtain of one of the windows to wait till his guest should be ready to go down. The fog was very dense on the lake, as was often the case in the cool mornings of the early spring, though it disappeared as soon as the sun was up high enough to burn it off. From the window he could just make out the shore of the lake, and the water for a couple of rods or more.

"There's a boat!" he exclaimed suddenly, as he lifted the curtain to obtain a better view. "I can only just make it out in the fog."

"If it is a boat it must be the Sylvia," added Laud, beginning to be somewhat excited, for he felt an interest in that particular boat just then.

"It is the Sylvia!" exclaimed Lark, as he recognized her by her great length alone, for he could hardly see her as she moved along on the very edge of the fog bank which brooded over the lake. "There are two fellows in her."

"Who are they?" asked the young magnate.

"I can't tell; the fog is thicker than a stack of gray kittens, and the fellows keep near the shore so as not to get lost."

"One of them must be Ray Pemberton," suggested Laud. "But who is the other?"

"That is more than I know; I can only see that one of them is considerably larger than the other. Oh, I know now!" exclaimed the cashier's son. "That is Ray going to the postoffice, as he does every morning about this time."

"He can't go to the postoffice in a boat," Laud objected.

"The postoffice is just above the bank on Main street. He goes to the foot of the street in a boat, and walks the rest of the way," Lark explained. "Here comes Cy, with a basket on his arm."

"We are all right, then."

Laud finished dressing himself, and he did not spend much time on his toilet. He followed Lark down stairs. Mrs. Dilloway was in her room attending to the children, so that she could not see them when they left the house. The son had told her that he was going off with Laud, and this name assured her that it was necessary for him to go, though she would have been glad of his help in her work.

By the advice of his conductor, the young magnate turned up the collar of his overcoat, and pulled his hat down over his eyes, so that his face was partially concealed; but Main street and the vicinity of the railroad station were the very parts of town, and they were not likely to meet any person near the lake.

Cy reported that he had provisions enough for three days rations, and he returned to the financier of the expedition about half the money he had received. The commissary had seen the Sylvia, but he did not know who was with Ray. At the foot of Main street they found the boat, left in charge of no person.

"He's a big fellow," said Laud, as he saw the unknown, and evidently did not like the looks of him.

"But I think we three can handle him without any trouble," said Cy, for without any talk at all it was understood that the possession of the boat was the question to be settled.

"There comes Ray!" exclaimed Lark, as he discovered the doctor's son coming down the street with a lot of papers in his hand. "Not a minute to lose if we are going to do anything."

Laud was aroused, and he led the way to the boat. As they came nearer to her they saw that the big fellow in the boat was Tom Tivers, the half-witted son of a poor woman who fought the demon of poverty and want in the capacity of a washerwoman.

"All right; that is Tom Tivers, and we had better take him with us, for he can help us row," said the young magnate, as he leaped into the boat. "It's all right Tom; and you shall go with us."

"May I?" replied Tom, opening his mouth almost from ear to ear in a cheerful grin.

"What are you doing here, Tom?" asked Laud, as his companions took their places in the boat.

"I'm only a-settin' here," replied the boat-keeper, with another expansive smile.

"I hope you will hatch out something," added Laud. "Put the basket in the bow of the boat, Cy, where it will be out of the way. Hurry up! Ray will be here in a moment."

In fact Ray had seen the three Rockwoods take possession of his boat, and he had already broken into a run. He was putting in all the speed with which his legs would carry him, apparently without asking himself what he could do against triple his own force.

"Shove her off!" shouted Laud, as he took the boathook to assist with his own hands, a thing he was not in the habit of doing under ordinary circumstances.

The boat had been run up the beach bow on, and when the leader of the enterprise attempted to move her, she stuck fast. But his companions shoved Tom farther aft, and pushed her off with their oars. Ray was rushing down the beach, but he was an instant too late to leap into the boat before she was disengaged from the sand. He was not to be wholly defeated, however, for he rushed into the shallow water and caught hold of the stem. He could not check the boat's headway, and he sprang into the bow before Cy, who was nearest to him, could prevent it.

"What are you doing with my boat?" demanded Ray, as under the impulsion of the two oars, the Sylvia backed out into the dense fog, which hid her from the shore, if there had been any one there to see her before.

"Keep perfectly cool, Ray, my dear fellow," said Laud laughing, as he felt that he could afford to do after winning the battle which had just been fought, though it hardly amounted to a skirmish.

"Do you mean to steal my boat again?" asked Ray, who had entirely exhausted his stock of wind in running and could hardly speak for the want of breath.

"Stealing is a very hard word, Ray," replied Laud. "You are a very reasonable sort of a fellow, we all agree; but you had better take a seat and gather up your wind. Rest yourself, and we will consider your conundrum when you get rested."

Ray was absolutely amazed to hear the son of the West Side magnate talk in this mild manner, for on such occasions as the present he was invariably insolent, stormy and overbearing. Laud had been present through the entire hearing the evening before, and the manner of Dr. Pemberton had impressed him very strongly. The impulse had come upon him to imitate, as far as possible, the bearing of Ray's father.

He invited the cockswain of the Duckwoods to take a seat in the stern-sheets, and Ray moved aft, still panting from his violent exertion. The two oarsmen continued to back water till the boat must have been twenty rods from the shore. Laud gave the order to cease rowing. Tom Tivers opened his mouth again, and wanted to know what he was to do. The cockswain knew that he could row very well, though he was obstinate in his stupidity in the matter of keeping the stroke. He placed him on the starboard side, while he placed his two friends on the port. Then he started the boat again.

The Sylvia came about, and Laud headed her as well he could judge for the Pass, the narrow channel by which the two great lakes were connected. Laud did his best to regulate the pulling of Tom, but the two oarsmen on the other side could hardly keep up their part of the work.

"Where are you going?" asked Ray, when he recovered his breath.

"We are going onto the fog just now, and I am sure I don't know where we shall fetch up," replied Laud, evasively.

"You have stolen my boat, and——"

"I beg your pardon, Ray; but that is the second time you have used that ugly word, and you compel me to call your attention to the facts in the case. You smashed my boat yesterday, and it is fair, just, right and all that, for me to have the use of yours; and I have taken her."

Ray could hardly help laughing at the changed tone of Laud Steele.

TO BE CONTINUED.

SUPPOSED TO BE FUNNY.

Women do not suffer as much as they used to in olden times from contraction of the chest. Just look at the size of the Saratoga trunks.—[Texas Siftings.

This may be a highly moral nation, but honesty must become more prevalent before it will be safe to judge a man by the umbrella he carries.—[New York Recorder.

"How did your soiree go off, Mr. Von Wolle?" "Simply magnificent; nobody but gentlemen of the first society. Their cloth s were all of genuine wool."—[Fliegende Blatter.

Bridges—"Do you suppose a man's evil deeds are writ ten in indelible ink?" Brooks—"I hope so." Bridges—"Why?" Brooks—"I won't last over six weeks."—New York Herald.

Studious Boy—"Jerry Judd asked, 'Which is the safest, ice yachting or summer sailing? Is that correct?" Father—"No. He should have said, 'Which is the more dangerous?'"—[Good News.

"I find, in looking over your bills, my son, almost all the charges are for beer and wine; scarce anything for kerosene. It seems to me that you are——" "But, dear father, a fellow can't drink kerosene."—[Fliegende Blatter.

Tommy—"What's the difference between an independent and a mugwump, paw?" Mr. Figg—"He's an independent when he agrees with our party and a mugwump when he agrees with the other fellow's."—[Indianapolis Journal.

A Wisconsin man has invented a device for making the moon visible when it is behind the cloud. He now thinks he has sufficient experience to experiment upon a contrivance of making the stage visible behind a theater hat.—[New York Recorder.

A Mean Man.

"Now, gentlemen," said the man with the checked suit on, as he briskly entered the waiting room, where more than twenty of us were sitting, "I have no time for foolishness. Life is short, and the man who expects to get there must hustle. I don't have much to say, but what I do say is straight up and down and good as the late Thomas Jefferson's affidavit. I have here a liquid compound of my own discovery. It is called 'The Fraud Detector,' and can be relied on every day in the week, Sundays included. One drop placed on a bogus diamond, a filled watch case, or a rolled-plate pin immediately exposes the cheat and protects you from imposition. Who takes the first bottle at 25 cents?"

No one spoke, while every one seemed to hold his breath, and after looking over the crowd the fakir continued:

"You've been swindled and imposed upon, and you desire to buy a good thing. There are at least fifteen watches and a half a dozen so-called diamonds in this crowd. Who'll be the first to pass up watch, pin, or ring and let me test it?"

Not a leaf stirred, and two-thirds of the crowd actually turned pale.

"I'm waiting," remarked the man, as he stood before us.

Everybody looked at the opposite wall, and everybody wished he had that chap out in the woods for about three minutes.

"Oh, well," he continued, "if you are all built that way of course I can't expect to make any sales here. I thought there might be one or two of you with some straight jewelry, but as there isn't, and as I don't want to squeeze you too closely, I'll pass on."

It was a great relief to everybody when he walked out, and the next five minutes were spent in sly glances at each other. By and by I got up and walked out, cursed at by all the others. I found the agent outside on a box laughing until he could hardly sit up.

"What kind of a cuy is that?" I asked.

"Best in the world. That's simply a little cold coffee in the bottle, but it never fails

Recent Literature.

The Latest Volumes that Have Reached the Blade Book Table.

Mary J. Serrano has translated Juan Velera's fascinating Spanish tale, "Donna Luz." The personality of Donna Luz furnishes the chief attraction of the story, and her character is delineated with loving human warmth and delicacy that puts her into an ideal world full of dreams of fair women. D. Appleton & Co., New York.

A very useful "Readers' Guide" has just been published by the society for Political Education, New York, through its agents, G. P. Putnam's Sons. It covers the entire field of economic, social and political science. Its titles include not only the leading works by American and English authors, but those in French and German.

The first bound volume of *The Knowledge Manuel*, a small magazine published monthly by John B. Alden, New York city, has made its appearance. Its purpose is to supply such information as one seeks to find in his cyclopedia but fails to find it there, such as the result of the recent census which, of course, cannot be in volumes published before last year.

"Drills and Marches," by E. C. & L. J. Rook, is entirely new and original. It embraces not only such standard drills as the broom, fan, and tambourine, but in addition contains many new, novel, and original ones, as the umbrella drill, drill of the little patriots, hoop drill, waiter drill, doll drill, etc., etc. Paper binding, 25 cents; boards, 40 cents. Penn Publishing Co., Philadelphia.

"From Ocean to Ocean," is the title of a neatly printed book just received, which gives in narrative form the story of the march of the Salvation Army from the Atlantic to the Pacific. It is written by Commissioner Ballington Booth. Paper cover, 25 cents; cloth bound, $1.00. J. S. Ogilvie, publisher, 57 Rose street, New York.

In the "Good Company Series," published by Lee & Shepard, Boston, appears "Sardia," by Core Lynn Daniels. It is a story full of incident which holds the reader's interest from beginning to end.

In "Lovell's International Series," two books have been recently issued, one entitled "A Double Knot," by George Manville Fenn, the author of "Eli's Children," etc; another, "A Mint of Money," by the same author. Both are very pleasant stories. United States Publishing Co., 150 Worth street, New York city.

Harper & Bros., New York city, have issued in their "Franklin Square Library" the novel "Annie Kilburn," by W. D. Howells. This story has won a popularity that will make it welcome in this cheap form.

From J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia, comes in the "Library of Select Novels" two volumes in the usual pamphlet form. One is "A Draft o' Lethe," further described as the "Romance of an Artist," by Roy Tellett. the author of "The Outcast," a most fascinating story; the other is a quiet romance, entitled "Two English Girls," by Mabel Hart.

In "Frank Leslie's Illustrated Library of Choice Literature" is published in paper cover, "The Chaplain's Secret," by the well known author Walter Besant. Popular Publishing Co., 323 Dearborn street, Chicago.

"The Compounding of English Words," by F. Horace Teall, is a small volume, written to explain when and why joining or separation of words is preferable, with concise rules and alphabetical list. It is declared to be the first systematic attempt to disentangle the perplexities of the compounding of English words. Published by John Ireland, 1197 Broadway, New York city.

INTELLIGENCE OF ELEPHANTS

Compared With That of Dogs in Favor of the Former.

In instituting a comparison between the intelligence of a dog and an elephant, Sir S. Baker decides in favor of the former, "who, when the day's work is over, lies down and sleeps before the fire at his master's feet and dreams of the dangers and exploits of the hunt." Sir S. Baker seems to have forgotten the old story of Æsop's Fables, where the horse was jealous of the dog and tried to ingratiate itself with its master by imitating its rival's habits of fawning on its master and jumping on his lap. Of course the horse fared badly in the contrast. And so would the elephant if he were to try to imitate the dog and curl himself up at his master's feet before the camp fire.

But Sir S. Baker himself acknowledges that the elephant is instructed and guided by the mahout in all that he does. He writes thus: "I do not know a more agreeable sensation than the start in the early morning on a thoroughly dependable elephant, with a mahout who takes a real interest in his work. A thorough harmony exists between man and beast, and you feel prepared for anything. But how much depends upon that mahout! It is impossible for a bystander to comprehend the secret signs which are mutually understood by the elephant and his guide. The elephant detects every movement, however slight, and is thus mysteriously guided by its intelligence; the mighty beast obeys the unseen helm of thought, just as a huge ship yields, by apparent instinct, to the rudder which directs her course." And he goes on to observe: "What must be the result should an elephant be guided by a mahout of uncertain temperament? The great trouble when riding on an elephant is the difficulty in getting the mahout to obey an order. In tiger shooting the elephant will at once detect anything like treachery on the part of its mahout. Frequently a good elephant may be disgraced by the nervousness of his mahout, nothing being so contagious as fear." After this testimony it seems reasonable to think that the elephant is as much superior in intelligence to the dog as the mahout is to the elephant.—[Longman's Magazine.

Progress.

It is very important in this age of vast material progress that a remedy be pleasing to the taste, easily taken, and acceptable to the stomach and healthy in its nature and effects. Possessing these qualities, Syrup of Figs is the one perfect laxative and most gentle diuretic known.

UNDER THE BARBER'S BLADE.

Why Some Men Are Harder to Shave Clean Than Others.

"Why are some men harder to shave than others?" said an expert barber in response to a New York *Recorder's* query. "Well, I'll tell you, first of all, that there are a number of reasons. Some of my customers have beards that it is almost impossible to shave, rake or scrape off their faces. One man in particular has such a dense and stiff growth of hair on his chin that it takes the edge right off of my razor the instant I touch it, and I frequently have to use several razors before I manage to get him in anything like respectable trim."

"How do you account for that?"

"Simply because his beard is like the bristles on a brush or the quills on a porcupine's back, that's all. That man never should get shaved, for not only is the process painful to him, but it is also a nuisance and an expense to me, to say nothing of the wear and tear of patience. He could raise and should cultivate a luxuriant full beard."

"I suppose other eccentricities come under your hand?"

"Right you are. One fellow comes here who has scarcely any hair on his neck or chin, while it grows as thick as grass on his cheeks. Now, he could produce some superb Dundreary's, but, notwithstanding they would be immensely becoming to him, he insanely persists in having himself shaved, and every day, too."

Among other freaks of nature mentioned by the expert was a man whose beard, as soon as it was two days old, seemed to curl up at the ends and refused to grow in. This, he said, was also very hard on a razor. Young men, he added, were of course more easy to handle than their elders, but still he had to devote just as much time to them, for if he dismissed them with a few flourishes they would feel slighted and he would lose their custom.

—BEECHAM'S PILLS act like magic on a Weak Stomach.

Perry Hutchinson, of Marshall county, Kansas, has 10,000 bushels of corn cribbed in Marysville, for which he paid 12 cents a bushel. Within the past few days he has been offered 30 cents a bushel for the entire lot, but he is holding on for a higher price, and will doubtless get it. Mr. Hutchinson will clear at least twice as much as he invested, and will wad his jeans with a clean profit of $10,000.

The Farmstead.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Six Months' Ringbone.

I. B. C., St. Croix county, Wisconsin: Early applications of biniodide of mercury or firing will check the growth of ringbone, but after the first three months the growth is complete and quite irreducible. It will be of no use for you to apply anything to get rid of a ringbone that has been permitted to run six months.

Constructing a Cheap Hotbed.

J. E. F., Pickaway county, Ohio: A hot bed may be made any length, the material being horse manure fresh from the stable, adding, if they can be had, leaves from the woods, about one-half in bulk. Mix well, and pack in layers conically, sufficiently large to generate heat in winter. In a few days, after fermentation has taken place, and steam escapes, the pile should again be turned over, shaken out and formed into a pile. In about three days, when second fermentation takes place, it should be placed in a pit or on the surface of the hot-bed, and beaten down with the back of the fork, so that it will have a uniform surface, and well packed two and a half feet deep. The pit should be two and a half feet deep, boarded up along the sides, and running above the surface eighteen inches at the back and twelve inches at the front. The boards should be nailed to posts. The sashes over the boards must rest on strips. The frame for the hot-bed is usually made movable, in length which three sashes will cover. The rank steam from fermentation should be allowed to escape. The heat will indicate 100 on the thermometer, but no seed should be sown until the heat recedes to 90. Then soil should be placed on the hot bed to the depth of five or six inches. The soil should consist of one-third well rotted barnyard manure and two-thirds good loam, spread evenly over the surface. The question of hot-beds was spoken of more fully a few weeks ago in the Farm department of THE BLADE. A cheap frame and sash should not cost more than $2 to $3. Your other question has been referred to the editor of the Question Bureau.

To Get Rid of Moths and Crickets.

A. M., Eau Claire: To get rid of moths in carpet lay over it a cotton or linen cloth and iron over it. To prevent moths, scatter camphor under carpet, or in packing woolen goods, scatter a little camphor through them, oil all cracks in storerooms, closets or sills with turpentine or a preparation of whisky and corrosive sublimate. This drives off any kind of vermin. The editor cannot tell you how to get rid of crickets. It is said that to scatter borax in their haunts they will disappear, but this is not given as personal observation.

Blood Warts on Horses.

E. S. C., Kansas: The editor is not certain as to your meaning. Had you described on what part of the body the blood warts are located an intelligent idea could be formed. Some people call blood spavin "blood warts," while others speak of epithelial cancer as "blood wart." The former is reduced by fomentations with hot water, and the part afterward treated with sweating blister, while the latter must be treated early and thoroughly with the knife, to remove the fibrous framework.

Hemp Seed for Breeding Mares.

Reader, Kentucky: The editor is not conversant with the practice of feeding hemp seed to breeding mares. The best plan to pursue is to feed a mare but the best of food. Keep the bowels regular, and give gentle exercise. Abortion is the result sometimes of feeding on mouldy hay, or other food that is injurious.

Horse's Jaw Swells and Breaks.

S. It, Kansas: The part that is affected should be well poulticed, and if there is pus in it, it should be released by opening with a knife. Then dress with chloride of zinc, 1 drachm; water, 1 pint.

Lamb Staggers.

C. T. R., Illinois: You do not say how old your lamb is. If half grown, give tincture of rhubarb, ½ drachm; carbonate of soda, ½ drachm; warm water sweetened with molasses, 1½ ozs. Give it slowly with a spoon. After this give ½ oz. linseed oil, raw.

The Castor Bean.

O. H. McC., Cloud county, Kansas: The castor bean is a native of the West India islands. It may be cultivated as a field crop. It likes a rich, mellow bed, and is planted and hoed with corn. It attains the height of five or six feet, and bears at the rate of 20 to 30 bushels per acre. In some parts of your progressive state, considerable interest is taken in its cultivation, and the editor shall be pleased to have some one write a communication to THE BLADE Farmstead regarding the mode of planting, cultivating, harvesting, etc., in Kansas.

Bunch on Neck Where Collar Rests.

L. C. T., New York: If there has been no rubbing of the collar to cause irritation or bruise, the swelling you speak of may be the formation of a cancerous tumor. You do not say whether or not the skin is broken and the part inflamed. If there is swelling, without abraded skin, try iodine, ½ oz.; soap liniment, 5 ozs. Rub well in frequently. If the skin is broken and there is suppuration and ulceration, with a horny or leathery appearance in the center, the knife should be used, and the part dressed with carbolic acid, 1 drach; lard, 8 ozs. Mix well and apply on soft rags. In swellings, or sores of any kind, they should be described as minutely as possible.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Small Fruits.

EDITOR BLADE FARMSTEAD:—Although a honey producer I would like to say a few words in regard to small fruit culture, which I have combined with my bee business, which makes it very pleasant healthful and profitable for the owners, besides the pleasure of having it the year round adorn one's table. The first we produce in our Northern states is the strawberry, and it should be given a good place in the garden or on the farm. A southeastern slope would be the best, but most any good, dry soil would do. Should not set them where water would be inclined to cover them for any length of time. The soil should be prepared by deep plowing or spading as the case may be, and a fair amount of mulching, or manure well rotted, evenly spread over the top, which then should be well worked in the soil, using a four-tined potato fork, and pulverize the clods at the same time. If on the farm use the team and a sharp-toothed harrow as a drag. When ready mark off into straight rows by hand or with a team, whichever way is the handiest, in rows three or three and one-half feet apart one way, and about fifteen inches the other way. Now as to the varieties, there is some difference of opinion, but for home or family use I should prefer the Bubach and Jessie mixed by setting rows alternately of each kind, the Jessie being perfect in its bloom, whilst the Bubach is not, but both together make a perfect berry that is very hard to beat. For shipping purposes use the Crescent, Sevelling, Mayfield, May King, James Vick or Captain Jack, and if one wants quite a late berry, plant the Mt. Vernon. Six hundred good plants with good care, will produce each year after the first, all the berries that a family of ten could use on the table, besides enough for canning purposes. Care should be taken to keep the soil loose on the surface and around the plants, either by cultivating or hoeing, or both, and if one wishes to keep them in rows. As the plants send out runners, turn them in line with the rows, and when thick enough, the runners can be cut off to keep the rows from running together. When it gets cold enough in the late fall to freeze the ground, the plants should be covered with some coarse manure, straw, or what is still better is forest leaves, to the depth of six or two inches deep. In the spring, remove the covering and with a garden rake, give the beds a good raking and remove all litter raked up. Then keep the soil well loosened up between the rows the same as the first year, allowing the plants to send out new runners, leaving only space of about one foot between the rows. Be sure and keep all the weeds pulled up, as they appear, and not let them get the start, for if they do it makes a bad job of it, and some might get easily disgusted with the business.

RASPBERRY CULTURE.—The most essential thing in raising small fruits, is the preparation of the soil, or ground to be set on. They, too, should be set in the spring, and I should prefer good, fresh, two-year-old roots to start with, instead of roots from slips. Set them in rows five feet apart one way and about three feet the other. This will give good room to cultivate and pick the fruit. They should be set about two inches deeper than when taken up. Care must be taken to protect the young sprouts that start from the roots of the plant sett, as they produce the wood for fruiting the following year. The best varieties, to my notion, are the Gregg, Tyler and Ohio. These three make an assortment and go well together as early, medium and late. All the new growth the second and later years should be nipped or pinched off at the top when they get about three feet high, causing them to throw out new branches and making more stalky bushes. Allow the suckers or new shoots to grow until they make a good stalky hill or bush. They should also be kept clean between the rows by hoeing or shallow cultivating after the first year. All of the old canes should be cut out and removed after fruiting, or in the fall, and in order to be on the safe side and not miss a crop of berries, they should be laid down and covered with dirt through the winter for safety.

GOOSEBERRIES AND CURRANTS can be given a more cool, shady place in the garden, and they should be well mulched, for it has a tendency to keep the soil around the plants cool and moist. Cultivate and hoe them well, not allowing grass or weeds to grow in the hill, as it is hard to subdue after once getting started; the bushes should be kept pruned, (that is all the old stock be kept cut out) not letting the foliage get too dense, as it might have a tendency to make them become mildewed and spoiled. Varieties of currants—I should prefer Fay's Prolific for one and the White Dutch for the other, and for gooseberry I should select Smith's Improved, and the Houghton would be beneficial to the above. Keep them well mulched with sawdust, hard wood being the best.

Dewberries come next, and they might be profitably grown for family use, and can be planted on any old piece of ground where it has been run for years, as a stony rough piece is not suitable for much else. Owing to their trailing habit, they can be easily covered through winter with coarse manure, old hay or straw. The Lucretia is considered the best, and a dozen plants set in rows three feet apart each way is enough to try at first, for every one does not succeed with them. The last, but not the least, is the grape. I shall not attempt to explain how they are to be managed. Some do it one way, whilst others a different way; but for fear my idea is not what it should be, I wish some one that is well posted in their culture would give their views through THE BLADE Farmstead, and oblige some of its readers.—BENJ. E. RICE, Wisconsin.

My Way of Growing Potatoes.

EDITOR BLADE FARMSTEAD:—To grow a good crop of late potatoes here, we plow the ground early, good and deep, then let remain till a week before planting, then re-brake. Thoroughly harrow fine, and plant at once. We plant about the 15th to the 15th of June. First lay off as deep as we can with a one-horse plow, rows ranging from 2½ to 3 feet apart, and drop the pieces about 18 inches apart in the row. We plant fresh cut pieces, cut generally to one or two eyes, and if the ground is not sod or full of trash, cover with one furrow; but if the ground is trashy you must use two furrows to do good work. Then let them lay one week and drag off with a light plank drag, and in a few days you will see them peeping out. After you can well see the rows start the cultivator, and keep perfectly clean, using level cultivation always. After first cultivation go through them with the hand hoe to get the small weeds from around the plants. You will have to cultivate about four or five times. At times the bugs are very troublesome, for which we use Paris green mixed in a cheap grade of flour, and dust early in the morning. When the dew is on it sticks well to the plants, and they give us no further trouble. There is one thing about the potato—it must not be neglected or you are sure to have a light crop of large potatoes, while you have plenty of small ones. First, the ground must be rich; second, it must be well prepared; third, planted deep in moist soil, well covered, to insure a good stand; fourth, cultivation must be commenced as soon as the rows can be seen, and continued once a week for four or five weeks, and the bugs attended to should they put in their appearance. They have not bothered our late potatoes but have been in our early potatoes bad enough. If you follow these directions you may, under favorable season, look for fair success.—PERKINS D. FISHER, Indiana.

Pine Sawdust as a Mulch.

EDITOR BLADE FARMSTEAD:—I would like to answer the inquiry of R. F. Johnson in Farmstead of March 19. I like pine sawdust very much as a mulch, as it answers every purpose and does not harbor vermin like straw or other mulches of the kind. I do not like to plant potatoes on hard ground, as is the case when you drop the seed in furrow while plowing. I have obtained better results by plowing the ground two or three inches deeper than I plant seed. Cut seed to one eye and drop one piece in a place one foot apart in row. If you have no potato digger, the quickest way is to plow them out; then after picking up those in sight, run over the ground with a light harrow.—J. M. MCDONALD, Montana.

Feeding Bees.

EDITOR BLADE FARMSTEAD:—I would say for the benefit of Indiana Subscriber: To feed bees I take coffee A sugar, making a syrup the same as for table use. Put it in a pie pan, spread a thin net over it to keep the bees from getting in and drowning. Turn back your mat, put the pan on the frames, and then put on the top. Do this at night. To prevent robbing, take the pan out in the morning and return it again at night. A good colony will soon learn to take all of the syrup out in one night. We have fed in this way for several years with good results.—ELLEN J. SHEETS, Iowa.

A Brooklyn priest, who has been repeatedly astonished and grieved at finding a solitary dollar bill in the envelope handed to him by a bridegroom at the close of the marriage ceremony, proposes to put a stop to that sort of meanness. He holds that nobody ought to assume the obligation of supporting a wife unless he can afford to pay a wedding fee of at least $5.

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if you have discomfort and suffering, take Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets, or Anti-Bilious Granules. They're made to assist Nature in her own way—quietly, but thoroughly. What the old-fashioned pill did forcibly, these do mildly and gently. They do more, too. Their effects are lasting; they *regulate* the system, as well as cleanse and renovate it. One little Pellet's a gentle laxative; three to four act as a cathartic. They're the smallest, cheapest, the easiest to take. Unequaled as a Liver Pill. Sick Headache, Bilious Headache, Constipation, Indigestion, Bilious Attacks, and all derangements of the stomach and bowels, are promptly relieved and permanently cured.

They're the *cheapest* pill you can buy, because they're *guaranteed* to give satisfaction, or your money is returned.

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Can you ask more?

The Camp Fire.

☞ Contributions for this department from the old soldiers are solicited by the editor; but short and lively personal and historical sketches, interesting reminiscences, etc., are preferable. Every comrade will be recognized, and no contribution will be overlooked. Nothing from the records is desired, as we are supplied with a full set.

Hidden Treasure.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—Allow me to relate an incident that occurred after Grant's army had crossed the Mississippi river at Grand Gulf, and was on the march between Port Gibson and Jackson, Miss. about May 10, 1863. One night, when near the town of Raymond, after we had encamped for the night, but had not yet gone to bed, a young negro man, about 21 years of age, tall and slim, with far more than the average intelligence of his race, came into my company and told us he resided on the adjoining plantation, near our camp; that he and his master that same afternoon had buried $200,000 in gold, in their family graveyard, in the shape of a grave, to deceive the "Yanks," who would think it a corpse and leave it undisturbed. He also stated that as soon as the money was buried his master "lit out" with the rebel army, then retreating before us, and he came into our lines. He then earnestly requested, even entreated us, as many of my company as were willing, to accompany him to the graveyard and he would point out the grave to us, assist us in unearthing the treasure, and we could divide it between ourselves.

A "council of war" was held in our company, and the subject discussed in all its bearings. Those opposed to going argued that he was only a "decoy" sent out by the rebs, to lead us to our death or capture; that it was outside the picket lines; that our regiment might be attacked or start on a night march (as it often did) before our return, and then we would be court martialed for absence without leave; that even should we succeed in securing this vast treasure it would be an "elephant" on our hands; that we could neither carry it along nor send it home, as we were marching and fighting every day, and expected each day to be our last; that as we were then getting $13 a month and our board and clothing, we were getting rich fast. This enough! As the negative seemed to have the question, we decided to leave the old reb's gold "severely alone" until after the war. The negro may have been mistaken as to the amount of gold, but I believe he told the truth in every other detail of the affair, as he knew nothing to the contrary but that we would go with him, each armed to the teeth with a loaded gun and forty rounds of cartridges, and if he decoyed us into a rebel death-trap or captivity, or failed to show us the "grave," his hide would be so "riddled" with bullets it would not hold "corn in the ear."

Knowing all this, what object could he have in deceiving us? He remained in our company eighteen months, as cook for Lieut. Hay, who nick-named him "Charcoal," on account of his extreme blackness. He then proved his loyalty to the old flag by enlisting in a colored regiment, and that was the last we ever saw or heard of him. Through the "vicissitudes" of war it is possible neither he nor his master ever returned home again, and no one else knowing where it was buried, the gold may be lying undisturbed in that cemetery today. Now, "boys," don't all start at once, or you'll "sink the boat," but tell me, through the Camp Fire, how many of you remember "Charcoal" and his gold.—DANIEL SIMMERS, Co. I, 80th O. V. I.

An Atlanta Raid.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—In the Camp Fire I saw Comrade P. R. Egolph's account of Kilpatrick's raid around Atlanta, which I read with great interest. I participated in that raid in the 2d Brig. of the 2d Div. of Cav., commanded by Col. Eli Long, that was encamped at Sau Town, about ten miles to the right of Atlanta. August 18, at 5 o'clock p. m., the 2d Brig. was ordered to put one and one-half days' rations in their haversacks, and about 7 o'clock p. m. started on the march. We had gone about five miles when we came up with the enemy's pickets, and fired on them, wounding one. We marched about five miles farther and went into camp for the remainder of the night. By daylight we were in our saddles again. We did not go far until we came up with the enemy—Gen. Ross's brigade. It was stationed on the railroad. We had a skirmish with Ross's men and killed two of them. We came to to a halt here, but I never knew why; and three men from our regiment went back to camp. We then began tearing up the railroad—tore up a great amount. After this we went across the country to Jonesboro, arriving about sundown. In the evening we charged the town and captured a locomotive and train of cars, tore up the railroad and burnt the depot, that was full of ammunition. We then dismounted and skirmished all night with the enemy, and our band played "Yankee Doodle" at regular intervals, as though fresh troops were arriving. The Confederates played "Dixie" at the same time. Before daylight we were in our saddles again and marching in the direction of Lovejoy station, the enemy following close on our rear. When we arrived at Lovejoy station we found Gen. Claburn's division waiting for us in ambush. They fired into us but we gave them battle and succeeded in tearing up some more railroad. The Chicago Board of Trade battery burst one of their guns during this fracas. Col. Eli Long was wounded.

By this time the enemy's cavalry had come up, formed in our rear, and placed their battery two hundred yards from us. We were surrounded at this time, and the enemy sent a delegation to Gen Kilpatrick, asking for an unconditional surrender. What Kilpatrick said to them I never knew, but I understood that he said he would tell their commander in fifteen minutes what he would do. The delegation then went back. Gen. Kilpatrick ordered Col. Eli H. Murray to take the 4th U. S. Cav., 7th Pa. and 2d Ky. Cav. and deploy them and charge the enemy's line, and if he failed to break the Confederate line to fall back in the rear of the command, and he (Kilpatrick) would charge the remainder of the command in solid column. The 7th Pa. was on the right, 4th U. S. in the center and 2d Ky. on the left. The 2d Ky. was in front of the Confederate battery when Col. Murray gave the order to charge. The boys in blue went through the Confederate line like a tornado, capturing the battery and taking prisoners. I took a revolver from one of the battery men, which I have yet. In this charge I saw one of the 4th U. S. cut a man in twain with his saber, and a member of Co. I, 2d Ky., captured the Confederate flag. We brought away one of the Confederate guns, and spiked the remainder of them. The 2d Div. numbered about four thousand men. We lost in killed, wounded and missing, about seventy five men. It rained very hard, and we had some trouble in crossing the water courses. The enemy followed us closely, and we would have to stop and give them battle till we could get our train out of their reach. The night I went into camp I took off my boots and hat, and held my horse by the halter rein, that I might get a good night's rest. But about 3 a. m. the Confederates awoke us by charging us, and I left my boots and hat. This was the last trouble we had with the rebs. We expected to have a battle with the Johnnies at Decatur, but they did not put in their appearance. We arrived inside our lines August 22, just at night, and went into camp without anything to eat. The next morning we started for our old camp, when we met the 17th Ky. Inf., and the boys gave us some hardtack and bacon.—J. B. HUNTER, Co. H, 2d Ky. Cav.

The Sergeant and the Porker.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—During the bombardment of New Madrid our regiment was supporting the battery, and, through a mistake of some kind, our colonel got too far in the advance of our battery, and we were ordered back. On our way back the Johnnies spied us, and commenced throwing shell into us at a pretty rapid rate. I wonder if our sergeant remembers the big porker we scared up on our route, that ran between his (the sergeant's) legs and carried him a rod or two? We were all greatly amused at him, amid the shower of shell; but as luck would have it, the porker carried him towards his destination. One of our boys had his haversack cut from his side by a fragment of shell. I would like to have some of the boys of the 29th O. V. I. add chips to the Camp Fire, so I might know where they are.—A. B. FORREST, Co. B, 32th O. V. I.

Killed a "Mud Lark."

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—I sit and read the Camp Fire stories, and can not keep from shedding tears when I hear the old stories told over again. I was with that grand old man, Gen. Sherman—peace to his ashes—on the march to the sea. The orders were, on cutting loose from our "cracker line," to not forage. We were out about five days, when we saw a number of "mud larks," as they were called. We could not resist the temptation, when one of the boys accidentally (?) shot one of them, oi—well, of course we could not bear to see it go to waste. So we skinned out a part of Mr. Porker, and we were just sitting down to enjoy a mess of fresh meat, when who should come riding along but our commander!

"You are having a change of diet, are you, boys? That's the way to fix them if they won't take the oath," he remarked, and rode on.

I thought I could see about two weeks of extra guard duty staring me in the face; but no! And the way our mess cheered the old man when riding off, was a caution. Well, I will have to pass over the time from Atlanta to Ft. McAllister.

"Now," said Sherman, "take that fort, and bread and bacon shall be yours."

The yell we raised when we started (and we were not long about getting action on ourselves) would have made a Sioux war whoop sound sick; and within fifteen minutes we had the Johnny fort. I went along there afterwards and I could not see how I ever got on the top of that fort.

When Sherman got to the sea he had lost all his stars but one, and had that pinned on his hat. I cannot do that man's name justice. He was a man who would not think it one bit out of the way to stop and talk with any one of his boys. This endeared him to the hearts of all. He has gone now, where they will need no guns.

Now, I don't want any of the comrades to confound me with Comrade Bryson. I know of what I speak, if I did belong to a company called the "hen-house brigade." Would like to hear of any of the 60,000 men who got through and are still living. Long live the Camp Fire!—CLIFF M. WILSON, 2d Lieut. Co. F, 7th Mo. Vol. Inft.

In the Rifle Pits.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—One more shot on Vicksburg, Miss. I was there from May 19 to July 4, 1863, the most of that time in the rifle pits. That was a hot time. We experienced two kinds of heat—one from the sun in a Southern clime, and one from the Johnny rebs. Our dead lay on the field under that hot Southern sun, from May 19 until the 28th—nine days. We endured the terrible stench emanating from those dead comrades until we could endure it no longer. On the last named day a flag of truce went up from our works, in order that we might lay our dear comrades away the best we could. I was one of the number detailed to bury those dead comrades that nearly covered the ground. And oh, what sights met our eyes! I sometimes imagine yet that I can see those comrades laying there. But we put them away, with no box, no shroud; just as they fell, so were they laid to rest. When I look back to that time, and think of how many of us escaped, I thank my Maker that I was spared. How any of us escaped I can not tell, for while going in on the charges the shot and shell fell like hail. Our charges was not successful, but we took Vicksburg all the same. I would like to hear something from the 30th, 37th and 47th O. V. I. We fought by their side.—WILLIAM EDMONDS, Co. C, 4th W. Va. Vet. Vol. Inf.

A Correction.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—I wish to correct an error in the article in the Camp Fire, written by Comrade Sylvester Banister, late Com. Sargt. 9th Vt. Vols., who ran to the rear at the battle of Cedar Creek. He states that all but the 2d Div. of the 6th Corps lost their organization that day. The 3d Div. was up, had breakfast, and fell in at the moment of the first attack, but had to change front to suit the flank movement of the enemy, and held their ground until ordered to "about face" and marched in good order about two miles, until the flanking was stopped, where we remained until Sheridan rode past us in the afternoon, and ordered us to go and camp where we had the previous night. As Early's army was in the way, we proceeded to knock them out while en route to camp. Abbot's "History of the Rebellion" will bear me out in my statements—and even that does not do us justice.—R. PEARSON, Co. G, 110th O. V. I.

A Night in June.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—I want to tell the "boys" of a night in June during the war, when we lay in the rear of Kenesaw mountain. We received orders to move after dark and flank the Johnnies. When we started they could see our guns glistening in the starlight, and began to shell us. In the rear of the regiment were the colonel, sergeant major and about twenty men that had been discharged too long time to go Big Shanty that night. The rebels fired on them, killing the sergeant major and two others. I wonder if any of the old "boys" of Co. C, 2d Minn. V. V. I., remember Capt. Toney? He sat on a clunk while the rebs threw shells in his direction. The captain dropped to the ground just as a piece of shell struck his hat, cutting a hole through the top, just where Toney's head had been. The captain resumed his perch on the clunk, with the remark:

"Well, he don't strike two times in one place. I guess I am safe!"

If any of the comrades remember the occurrence, I hope to hear from them through the Camp Fire.—A. P. O., Co. C, 2d Minn. V. V. I.

A Lost History.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—Since the war I have been on the frontier all the time. Some years ago I learned that certain of the 9th Ind. officers compelled the historian to give up all his manuscript and destroyed it, which caused the old man to go crazy, and he died a broken-up and down man. This history has never seen daylight and probably never will. Things that the officers had put in, in the early part of the war, were distasteful at the close. Every man in the regiment and a great many friends out of it, were subscribers to the history, and had paid $1 each besides, in a desire to aid the old man, who was as true and faithful as steel always in the fight, and as brave as the best. The regiment in 1863 at Nashville, put into his hands $1,056. This was a free will offering by the boys, not the officers. Now I should like to know something about the history of the 9th Ind.—A. C. VINE.

He's With Dan.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—I see that Comrade Dan Knight, Co. C, 5th Iowa Cav., will speak out, regardless of what the "long-faced deacons," as he pleases to term them, say. The deacons' faces were no longer than our own when the shells were bursting among us. Comrade Knight, I always suspected there was something wrong, or we would have reached Pittsburg Landing on Saturday before the battle. I wonder what has become of Buell! Now, Dan, don't be backward; speak out—I am with you, the same as I was in 1862. Where were you when the fight at Deuchtree creek took place? Were you within hearing of Atlanta?—DICK BELL, Co. C, 40th Ind. 2d Brig., 2 Div., 4th A. C.—[As near as the editor can ascertain, Gen. Don Carlos Buell now holds the office of pension agent at Louisville, Ky.]

Bugle Notes.

Comrade Charles Matusch, late of Co. A, 2d O. V. I., and member of George H. Thomas Post, G. A. R., died on March 23, at his home, Redfield, S. D., aged 65 years. Born in Frankfort, Germany, he emigrated to the United States in 1854. When the war broke out he was among the first of the three-year men to enlist, being mustered in May 27, 1861; discharged July 6, 1864.

Comrade W. M. Evans writes from Atwood, Ill.: "I belonged to Co. B, 148th Ind. Vol. Inf. I have seen nothing from comrades of my regiment in the Camp Fire. I should be pleased to hear from some of them. I was born in the South, and have for my neighbors some of the rebels that ran from me in time of war."

Comrade O. D. Johnson, 15th Ind. Battv., says: "In answer to M. G. Best, I will say that Capt. J. C. H. Venselon's 15th Battery, Ind. Light Artillery, was present when Marcon surrendered at Sa-fineville, O. I think our battery was the only artillery present. We started after Morgan from Paris, Ky., and by doubling on different railroads in Kentucky, Indiana and Ohio, we traveled thirteen hundred miles from start to finish."

Lieutenant General James A. Underwood, of the C. U. S. A., has appointed Col. John S. Scott, of Eureka Springs, Ark., to fill the vacancy caused by the death of 2d Major General G. Kulpfer, and Andrew B. Coombs has also been appointed to fill the office of colonel, vice Col. Scott, promoted.

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POETRY WITH A POINT.

When the tall and bearded wheat
Falls before the sickle fleet,
And we bind the yellow grain,
Then if lovers plight their troth
Wanton fate shall not betide,
Where's the churl who would complain?
—[Anon.

Here every day was Sabbath; only free
From hours of prayer for hours of charity,
Such as the Jews from servile toil released,
Where works of mercy were a part of rest;
Such as best angels exercise above,
Varied with sacred hymns and acts of love;
Such sabbaths as the one the new enjoys,
Even that perpetual one, which she employs.
For such vicissitudes in heaven there are—
In praise alternate and alternate prayer.
—[Dryden.

Here lurks no treason; here no envy swells;
Here grow no damned grudges; here are no storms;
No noise; but silence and eternal sleep.
—[Shakespeare.

A sleep without dreams, after a rough day
Of toil, is what we covet most; and yet
How clay shrinks back from more quiescent clay!
—[Byron.

Ah me! we doubt the shining skies,
Seen through the shadowing of tears,
And govern with our poor childish cries
The cradle hymn of kindly Providence.

And still we love the evil cause,
And of our best effort complain;
We tread upon life's broken laws,
And murmur at our self-inflicted pain.
—[Whittier.

Child you did not know the wild throb of pain
Those light words sent through my heart and brain;
Oh! we all have ships on a stormy sea;
Oh! weary watchers for them are we;
And when the tempest and clouds are rife,
When storms sweep over the sky of life,
With tearful eyes by the rounding shore
We watch for them—we have watched before;
But of all who weary and trembling wait
For the coming ships with their precious freight,
'Tis known, O Father! to one but thee
If they safely arrive or be lost at sea.
—[Anon.

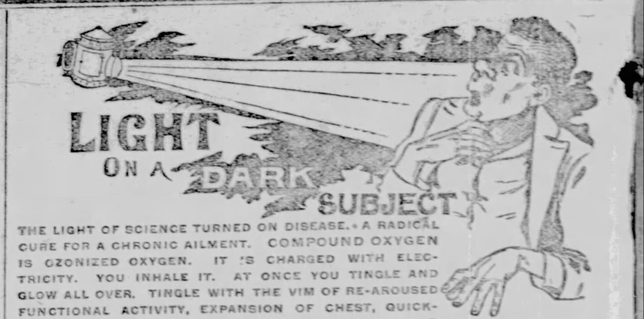
Virtue, not rolling suns, the mind matures;
That life is long which answers life's great ends;
The time-lost hours no fruit deserves no name;
The man of wisdom is the man of years.
—[Young.

Thus, born alike, from virtue first began
The difference that distinguished man from man.
He claimed no title from descent of blood;
But that which made him noble made him good.
—[Dryden.

A TRIBUTE.

And thou art dead! Well, well, it must be so,
How hard 'twill be to trace a lonely way
Amid the busy surging throng, and naught
To love; no more thy happy smile to see!
But, Father, as it pleaseth thee.
—[Susan Glenwood.

Mrs. Flavie von der Hende enjoys the distinction of being the only 'cellist in New York city.



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2. Do not ask what you can buy or sell anything, nor ask for addresses of business men or firms. This would be free advertising.

3. Do not ask whether any business man or firm is reliable.

4. Send only questions whose replies will be of general interest to our readers. We reserve the right not to answer queries which we consider are not so. Mathematical problems, puzzles, etc., are barred by this rule.

5. No replies by mail to questions, in any case.

Pension Questions.

L. E. H., Folsom, N. M.: A soldier's widow who re-marries, and her second husband dies, is not again entitled to a pension, unless her second husband was also a soldier.

J. S. K., Ceresco, Neb.: A man who served with the state militia is entitled to a pension if he was mustered into the service of the United States, and not if he was not.

W. H. L., Cornelius, Ore.: If your claim for pension was placed on the completed files early in December last, you may look for action thereon about next June or July.

F. M. B., Condon, Col.: Apply to the adjutant general of the United States army, Washington, D. C., by letter. The above address is all that is necessary on the envelope.

M. W., Steuben, O.: The new pension law makes no distinction as to what property a soldier's widow may own. She is entitled to a pension under it, no matter what her circumstances may be.

F. S., Carlton, Ore.: 1.—If a man pre-empted 160 acres of land and a short time thereafter homesteaded the same piece, he still has the right to pre-emption left. 2.—You cannot collect the remainder of the bounty.

G. L. B., Van Alstyne, Tex.: If you can prove your claim that the heart trouble was the result of your service in the army, your claim, if allowed, will commence from the date of filing, and the rate will be decided by the rank you held.

F. D.: A widow drawing a pension on account of her husband's service in the Mexican war, cannot draw an additional pension because of his service in the rebellion. The law in no case allows the same person to draw two pensions.

R. J., Homer, Ill.: 1.—There is no way to find out whether your pending claim for pension will be allowed. 2.—They will send you word whether it is granted or rejected when its turn comes, and if anything further in the way of evidence is required, they will notify you.

R. B., Pendleton, Ore.: 1.—Any honorably discharged Union soldier who served during the war of the rebellion can enter a national soldiers' home. 2.—Only the soldier himself, not his wife or family, will be admitted. 3.—Write a letter of inquiry to the commandant of the nearest soldiers' home.

F. S., Edgewood, Iowa: You cannot be reinstated on account of losing a leg since you were 16 years of age, if you had lost the leg while you were receiving the pension on account of your father, who was a soldier—that is, before you were 16 years old—you would have been entitled to reinstatement.

J. W. W., Gilpon, Neb., asks if the government at any time during the late war has passed a law entitling aliens to vote because of their serving in the Union army during the rebellion. There was a law passed by Congress and now existing, which allows any honorably discharged Union soldier who was an alien, to present his discharge certificate before the proper court and be made a full citizen at once. He must, however, prove that he is the same man mentioned in the discharge.

Measuring Hay.

P. B. F., Toledo, O., in answer to a recent query for a rule for measuring hay in the mow, gives the following rules from Haswell:

"700 cubic feet of new meadow hay, and, 616 and 553 from large or old stacks, will weigh a ton, and 297 to 324 cubic feet of dry clover weigh a ton."

A. S. S., Friendly, W. Va., gives this rule: "Multiply the length by the height, and this by the breadth, all in feet, and divide by 500, which gives the number of tons." We do not know where he gets his authority for saying there are 500 cubic feet in a ton. That does not agree with Haswell, given above.

G. K., Gohoenville, Pa., says "1,000 cubic feet of solid mow hay makes a ton." This is twice as much as A. S.'s answer, and over three times Haswell's figures.

The "Star of Bethlehem."

X. Y. Z., Emmetsburg, Iowa: There is no star called the "star of Bethlehem," and hence it is not going to appear this year. Your asking the question shows how difficult it is to correct a popular fallacy. The star of Bethlehem was a miraculous star mentioned in Matthew ii, 1, 2 and 9. When the wise men left King Herod at Jerusalem, "the star which they saw in the east went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was." Now Bethlehem is six miles south of Jerusalem. Hence its motion could not have been the apparent motion of any star in the heavens, for they go from east to west, not north to south; nor do they "stand." Hence it must have been a miraculous star. Tycho Brahe, the astronomer, in 1572, first noted a remarkable variable star in the constellation Cassiopeia, of which he made the wild conjecture that it might have been the star that guided the wise men. From this the foolish story has been started every few years that the "Star of Bethlehem" is to appear. There is no star in the skies, known to astronomers, called the star of Bethlehem, and no connection between any star now known and the miraculous one referred to in Matthew's gospel.

Silver in India.

L. W. Y., Wilsonville, Neb.: 1.—We presumed that everybody who has read our "Finance Primer" would understand that we have free silver coinage up to 1873. When we say that the price of silver has declined in India, we simply mean that its purchasing power remains the same that it did 25 or 30 years ago. The natives of that country use silver enormously in the manufacture of ornaments and barbaric jewelry. When a native has any savings, he always takes the silver coin and has it made up into a bangle, or a ring, or some other ornament, and the importance and wealth of these people is gauged by the amount of silver jewelry and ornaments which they wear. The wives and daughters of well-to-do natives are literally loaded with ornaments of this kind. The reason that silver has not declined in purchasing power, is simply because the millions who make up the population of India are unclothed and do not understand the movements of finance. With them, silver is the absolute standard of value, as gold is with us.

Foreign Postage.

H. G., Venetia, Pa.: The postage on an ordinary letter, not weighing more than half an ounce, to any point in New South Wales, Queensland, and Victoria, Australia, is 12 cents, prepaid; to the other Australian colonies, each letter not weighing over half an ounce must have a 5-cent stamp placed on it by the sender; that pays the postage from here to Australia, and the Australian postage is collected on delivery from the person to whom it is addressed. A common photograph to Australia would have to pay five cents postage as a letter, and of course the same postage as a letter, and of course the envelope could be sealed. Every postmaster in the United States has a United States postal guide, containing all this information; hence it is useless to send such questions to us, when you can get it at home at your own postoffice.

The Zodiac.

G. F. S., Holbrook, Kas.: 1. The zodiac is an imaginary belt in the heavens extending 9 degrees north and 9 degrees south of the ecliptic. It was divided by the ancients into 12 parts, of 30 degrees each, each part designated by an arbitrary sign. The width of the zodiac was originally determined by the range of the planets' motion north and south of the ecliptic. At that time the small planets between Mars and Jupiter were not discovered, and if their motions were taken into consideration, it would be about 70 degrees wide instead of only 18 degrees. 2. The variation in the length of day and night at the equinox is extremely small, and due to a number of causes, to explain which thoroughly would necessitate a considerable knowledge of practical astronomy on your part.

Sun "Slow" or "Fast."

W. W., Rumble, Ind., asks what is meant by the figures in the column of the almanac marked "sun slow" or "sun fast." A solar day extends from the time the sun is exactly on the meridian until it is on the meridian again. The length of this day varies from several causes, the principal being the motion of the earth in its orbit and its varying distance from the sun. A clock, therefore, does not indicate noon at the time the sun is on the meridian; and the column referred to in the almanac, gives the number of minutes and seconds which are to be added or subtracted from, so that noon is indicated by sun-dial in order to get correct clock time. 2.—A magnetic needle always points north, whether it is north or south of the equator.

Voting at the Soldiers' Home.

S. H. C., Snyder, Kan.: The Soldiers' Home at Dayton, Ohio, is a national institution, being owned and controlled by the federal government. Hon. W. D. Bickham, editor of the Dayton *Journal*, informs us that by the law of Ohio, those veterans of the Home who have no legal residence elsewhere, are entitled to vote at all elections, but that they exercise these rights only at the state election every November. There are four election precincts at the Home, each of which is governed the same as any other precinct in the state. They vote exclusively by state authority.

Origin of Masonry.

J. S. W., Takoa, Wash.: The origin of the Masonic order is involved in mystery. On the one hand, a very ancient origin is claimed for it, going back to an organization among stone-masons and builders engaged in the construction of temples and theaters in Asia Minor. This account is supposed to have been in existence in Tyre when Solomon built his temple, and the story runs that they sent a band of workingmen from Tyre to assist in erecting that structure, and in this way it was carried to the great prominence which is given to Solomon's temple in the ritual and symbolism of the order. There is, however, no trace of these legends in authentic history, and a great many well informed members of the order take the theory that it originated in the associations and trades guilds, formed during the Middle Ages by masons and builders and other workmen.

In these days, when a large cathedral or other great building was in process of construction, workingmen were called from all quarters and encamped in huts around the building, especially for the purpose. A general superintendent or master was appointed, and every tenth man was made a warden to oversee the others. They traveled from country to country wherever large buildings were being erected, and devised a system of secret signs, passwords and grips by which they might be known to each other.

Many historians claim that the order never had any connection with these traveling bands of masons in the Middle Ages, and that it was formed in 1646 by Elias Ashmole, a famous English antiquarian, and some of his friends, who took its symbols and signs partly from the Knights Templars and partly from other sources. However that may be, it is certain that the order was in existence in London after the great fire of 1666, and that Sir Christopher Wren was appointed master. In 1702 there was but one lodge in existence, and in that year it adopted a resolution for the extension of the order. There were four lodges in 1717, and they organized a grand lodge of London in 1723. The grand lodge adopted a constitution framed by Andrews, which became the organic law of the order.

Masonry was transplanted into France in 1725, into Ireland in 1729, and within the next ten years into Holland, Russia, Spain, Italy, Scotland and Germany. In 1733 a lodge was opened at Boston, and the order gradually extended throughout the colonies. There are about ten thousand lodges in the world at this time, and considerably over a million members. Many attempts to suppress it or restrict it have been made in various countries in Europe, but it is firmly planted in every country in the civilized world, and many lodges have been started in Africa and Asia. There are many foolish ideas current among people of limited education regarding the purposes of the order. It is a secret organization for social intercourse, moral improvement and mutual assistance. It takes no part in politics, and interferes in no respect with a man's liberty of conscience. We believe that no infidel is eligible to the order, and that a belief in God as the Creator of all things is required and a recognition for immortality. We think, too, that in the Templar degrees there is a recognition of Christ as the Saviour of mankind.

About Reporters.

R. H. S., Amboy, Ill., wants to know "the essential qualifications of a newspaper reporter." It should be an intelligent, wide-awake person, active in body, possessed of a good education, able to write a good hand, to spell properly, to capitalize and punctuate; he must be able to express his ideas in good, terse English, and to write an account of an event without expressing any opinion whatever on it. He must possess one other qualification, which is often called a nose for news; that is, he must be able to find out what is happening in his locality before anybody else, and to recognize the news value of any occurrence. This is something that cannot be required, but is inherent in the instinct of the person who has it. The salaries of reporters are comparatively low now, because there are a great many more young men ambitious to become reporters than there are places. The supply exceeds the demand, consequently salaries are at a low point. The only way to become a reporter, is to take a position on a newspaper, and learn reporting by working at it. A bright, intelligent young man can very soon master all there is to learn; and one who is not of that stamp very soon finds himself without a position. The city staff of the Toledo BLADE consists of the city editor and nine reporters. The number of reporters on the staff of a paper, must depend entirely upon the size of a city; the larger it is, the more men it takes to cover the news field.

The Magnetic Pole.

C. W. R., Thompson, Neb.: The magnetic compass does not point directly to the North Pole, but to what is called the magnetic pole. This is situated in the northern part of North America, at about 70 degrees north latitude. At this point the magnetic needle points directly downward toward the earth's center. Going beyond it toward the north pole, the needle points south, directly towards the magnetic pole. There is also presumed to be a magnetic pole in the Southern ocean, but its location has never been determined. The north magnetic pole is steadily moving westward at a rate in which it will make the complete circuit of the earth in about 650 years. There is no meridian on which the needle points absolutely north and south. There is a line encircling the earth on which the needle points due north and south, but it is not a meridian line. At present it makes a curve like the middle part of a letter S from the magnetic pole eastward and southward, to a point on the equator east of the mouth of the Amazon river, then curves like the lower part of the letter S through the Atlantic ocean. This line, however, is not stationary, but moves slowly westward with the magnetic pole. We presume that when the government surveyed your state, proper allowance was made for the variation of the needle.

Why 1900 Is Not a Leap Year.

W. B., Red Oak, Iowa, asks why the year 1900 is not a leap year. The exact length of the year—that is, the time it takes the earth to go around the sun in its orbit—is 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes, 49.62 seconds. When Julius Cæsar remodelled the calendar he made every fourth year a leap year of 366 days. He assumed the year to be 365¼ days. This is 11 minutes 10 seconds more than its real length. The result was that by the year 1582, the year had gotten 10 days out of the way, and Pope Gregory XIII corrected the calendar by reckoning the 5th day of October, 1582, as the 15th; and it was further ordained that every fourth year (that is, every one exactly in two ciphers) which is divisible by 400 shall be a leap year, but those not divisible by 400 shall not be. The year 1900 not being divisible by 400, is not a leap year. By the Gregorian method now followed, the difference between the civil and the natural year is so small that it will be over 5,000 years yet before it amounts to a day.

A Free Trade Falsehood.

S. T. H., Bayard, Iowa: The story that agricultural machines manufactured in the United States are sold cheaper in foreign countries than here, was started by a Democratic newspaper in New York city, which published the price-list of certain agricultural machines, given in a New York trade paper printed entirely for foreign circulation, and compared them with the retail price of the same machines in this country. This story was originally circulated by the Democratic press, but its refutation was not. It proved to be a very laughable matter. The price list as published in the trade paper was the wholesale price for the machines, and was exactly the same price at which the same machines are sold to dealers in the United States. The paper originally publishing the story had the honesty to correct it; but the circulation is religiously believed by the ignorant masses of Democrats. THE BLADE at the time published the story in full in its editorial columns.

Three Queries.

J. R. M., Groveland, Ind.: 1.—The Bureau is too crowded at present to give a list of all the Presidents and their cabinets. Repeat the question about June 1, when we will not be so crowded. 2.—We do not know with any certainty who are the five wealthiest men in the United States, nor how much they are worth, nor how much tax each pays. Men are not in the habit of publishing such statements. 3.—We cannot name the five wealthiest men in your county, how much each is worth, and how much tax he pays, without making a tedious search. 4.—We do not know what kind of a temperance organization you mean when you ask for topics for discussion. We might suggest "Improvement of county roads," "How far to substitute truck farming for the raising of grain and live stock," "What steps to take to introduce sugar beet cultivation," as a few that can be discussed with interest and profit by any farmers' organization.

Gen. Zollicoffer.

W. W., Rumble, Ind.: Felix Kirk Zollicoffer, the rebel general, was born in Tennessee in 1812. His grandfather was a captain in the revolutionary war, and the family is of German descent from Switzerland. He learned the printing trade; afterwards became editor; was elected comptroller of Tennessee, and afterwards state senator; was elected to Congress in 1853, and served three terms; entered the Confederate service as brigadier general in 1861, and was killed at the battle of Mill Spring, Kentucky, January 19, 1862.

Silver Questions.

M. L. D., Elton, W. Va.: 1.—The expense of coining silver from bullion varies with the coins, whether it be dimes, quarters, halves or dollars. 2.—Free coinage of silver is described in the Bureau of the Weekly BLADE of April 2. 3.—The United States buys silver on the market, and in coining it into silver dollars makes from 22 to 24 cents on each coin; but when these coins come back and are taken in payment, of course, it practically loses that amount. In the long run, the government does not make any profit in the transaction.

Watering Stock.

M. F. B., Republic, O.: The method of watering stock was first introduced by Commodore Vanderbilt in 1868. The state law of New York provided that when the dividends of any railroad should reach more than 10 per cent on its capital stock, the state should direct how the surplus above the 10 per cent should be applied. Vanderbilt controlled the New York Central and Hudson River railroad, whose capital stock was about $60,000,000. As the road was earning above 10 per cent, in order to evade the above provision of law, he issued more stock to the stockholders, making the capital $90,000,000. If a road is earning 10 per cent on its stock, and the stock is doubled, it is plain that it will then earn only 5 per cent on the stock.

Napoleon's Wives.

B. S., Glenwood, Mo.: Napoleon Bonaparte married a lady named Josephine Beauharnais, a young widow with two children, on March 9, 1796. Their marriage was childless; and Napoleon, after he became emperor, became very anxious to have a son to succeed him to the imperial honors; he also felt that if he could marry a wife from one of the reigning families of Europe, it would do much to strengthen his power. Hence on December 16, 1809, the French Senate passed an act formerly divorcing him from Josephine, and on April 2, 1810, he married Marie Louise, a daughter of the Emperor of Austria. By her he had one son, the King of Rome, or Duke of Reichstadt, who died in his young manhood.

Presidential Elections.

"Reader," Curtice, O.: The election for Presidential electors in every state in the Union is held in November. The constitution of the United States, Article II., Section 1, Clause 4, says: "The Congress may determine the time of choosing the electors, and the day on which they give their votes; which day shall be the same throughout the United States, provides that "the electors of Presidents and Vice Presidents shall be appointed in each state on the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November, in every fourth year next preceding the election of a President and Vice President." Some of the states have state elections at other times than in November; but the Presidential election occurs in every state on the same day.

Finding Water With a Fork.

N. G. P., Junction City, Kan.: The finding of water by means of a forked stick, held in the hands, is believed by all scientific persons to be a mere superstition. We have never investigated the subject, and can only refer you to the statements of others. There is no possible cause that can be assumed why such a stick should turn downward where there is water. There is no known law of electricity or magnetism, or of physics, that would account for it. We presume that it is no more than anything else when water is found in such a place, as there are numerous instances where no water was found, even though the stick pointed downward.

Salt Lakes.

L. S., Dennison, O.: There is salt in a great many rocks and soils. This is dissolved by the rain and the water soaking through them, and finds its way off in the waters of rivers. If the river flows into a lake which has no outlet to the sea, the salt gradually accumulates there, as the waters of the lake constantly evaporate and leave the salt behind, and the water coming down is constantly carrying a small portion of salt; hence in the course of years, these lakes which have no connection with the ocean contain more salt water than the ocean itself. Lakes which have connection with the sea have fresh water. The salt of the ocean is due to the same cause as that stated above.

Some State Names.

G. H. D., Wolfsburg, Pa.: The word Alabama means "here we rest." Mississippi, "long river;" Nebraska, "wide plain;" Idaho, "gem of the mountains." These names are all of Indian origin. We do not know of any other nicknames for them. It would be much better if all would people would stop using nicknames for either states or persons.

Miscellaneous.

E. D. C., Gary, S. Dak.: We never saw the poem you mention.

"F. "Republican," Mowequa, Ill., will send his name, we will be pleased to answer his question.

If J. S. K., of Webb City, Mo., will send his address, according to Rule 1, we shall be glad to answer his questions.

If A. J. T., Howe P. O., Idaho, will send real name, agreeing with Rule 1, we shall be happy to answer his question.

E. N. W., Deshler, O.: The law requiring revenue stamps to be placed on bank checks went into effect on July 1, 1883.

"A Reader," Virginia City, Nev., did not send her name, and so we forget to address, which we cannot give. See Rule 1.

J. M. T., Oswego, Kan.: We will publish the formulae for plating later in the "Moneymaker" series—not in the Bureau.

C. H., Tiffin, O.: The present governor of Utah is Arthur L. Thomas. We do not recall the name of the president of the Mormon church.

Trixie, Headley, Ind.: There is no such officer as the "regular pension agent" at Washington, D. C. All pension attorneys are on the same level.

P. M., Alto Pass, Ill.: We have not a list of the names of General Grant's staff at the battle of Shiloh. If some one will furnish it, we will gladly publish.

J. L. G., Joy, O.: Two or more persons can write letters to the same individual and enclose them in the same envelope, without violation of the postal laws.

L. J. B., Saw Tooth, Idaho, asks when the first mining was done in the Lake Superior region. Will some who knows inform us, that we may answer the question?

S. B., Hennessey, Ok.: It is impossible for us to compile a list of living generals of the militia, and as to giving the post-office address of each, see Rule 1 above.

S. M., West Bedford, O.: All of the Presidents were married, or widowers, except James Buchanan; he was never married, and he was therefore known as the "bachelor President."

A. C., Worthington, Ind.: A portion of New York city, lying on the Harlem river, at the northern extremity of Manhattan Island, was formerly the town of Harlem. We never heard of any Harlem estate, however.

"Ignorance," Catlin, Ill.: Never put a postage stamp on a letter in any other place than the upper right hand corner. Putting it elsewhere causes a great deal of trouble to the postal clerks, and betrays a lamentable degree of greenness on the part of the person so doing.

B. D., Dahlonega, Iowa, asks what was the forbidden fruit that Adam and Eve ate in the garden of Eden. Genesis ii, 17, says that it was that of "the tree of the knowledge of good and evil," and that is all that anybody knows about it.

G. E. W., Portland, Mich.: Ignatius Donnelly resides in Minnesota, and once represented that state in Congress. We think he is lecturing now. He does not contribute to any periodical in particular; most of his works are in book form.

E. R., Cambria, Pa.: Thunder and lightning are most common in hot countries, and become less frequent as we progress North or South into colder climates. Probably within the Arctic Circle, an ordinary thunder-storm never occurs.

G. J. J., McFall, Mo., asks us what we mean in the Weekly BLADE of March 19, 8th page, 1st column, in saying that the scenes in new Ephesus would be "more tragic." We meant what happened on that September day 16 years ago. It was a riot, but we do not recall the circumstances.

G. H. V., Toledo, O., asks for a list of the great names of the present time, the one or the other of which we make up a list of men great in all lines of human endeavor is too great a task. If he will tell us his definition of "great," and what particular kind of greatness he refers to, we will do our best to answer.

J. M. B., Rouse, Col., also sends us a correction of the story that Cornish miners live in the mines. He says he is a Cornishman, has worked in several of the mines and travelled all over the country, and that, whatever miners may lack, they have good, substantial stone houses, above ground, and do not live in the mines.

C. C. B., Unlontown, Pa.: The women in the government offices at Washington have positions as clerks and stenographers, the same as men. Of course the work differs in the different departments. You may address Hon. ——, and name the five wealthiest men in your county, how much each is worth, and how much tax he pays, without making a tedious search? 3.—We do not know what kind of temperance organization you mean when you ask for topics for discussion. We might suggest "Improvement of county roads," "How far to substitute truck farming for the raising of grain and live stock," "What steps to take to introduce sugar beet cultivation," as a few that can be discussed with interest and profit by any farmers' organization.

D. C. R., Green Spring, Ohio: If a national bank desires to issue circulating notes, which all of them don't, it is required to purchase United States bonds and deposit a certain amount in the treasury at Washington. It can then issue notes to the amount of 90 per cent of the face value of these bonds. The amount of bonds that may be deposited can not exceed the amount of its capital stock.

E. D. B., Rimersburg, Pa.: 1.—You appear to have been a victim to a bit a sharp practice, along with a great many others. You cannot be compelled to pay a debt which you did not incur. You will probably be threatened, but all you have to do is to stand firm. It is a fraud, and you should not pay it. 2.—You can publish a book without copyrighting it, if you choose, of course, but if anybody else sees fit to print it also, he can do so unless you have it copyrighted.

How a Student Makes Money.

DEAR READERS:—I am able to pay my board and tuition, wear good clothes and have money in my pocket by spending my odd hours and vacations plating jewelry and tableware and selling platers. I have made $20 per day, never less than $4. I paid $5 for my plater to H. F. Delno & Co., Columbus, O. Any one can profit by my experience by writing there for circulars.

A STUDENT.

FREE for 20 DAYS

from date of this paper. Wishing to introduce our CRAYON PORTRAITS and get the cash at this special offer. Send us a picture of yourself or any member of your family, living or dead, and we will make you a LIFE SIZE CRAYON PORTRAIT FREE OF CHARGE, provided you exhibit it to your friends as a sample of our work, and use your influence in securing us future orders. Place name and address on back of picture and it will be returned in perfect order. We warrant a likeness. Please say you wish, not interfering with the likeness. Refer to any Bank in Chicago. Address all mail to PACIFIC PORTRAIT HOUSE, 108 & 110 Randolph St., CHICAGO, ILL.

Talmage's Sermon.

TALMAGE ON CRIMINAL CLASSES.

How They Prey Upon Society, Which is Unable to Protect Itself —More Honesty and Vigilance in Officials Needed.

Dr. Talmage, in continuance of the course of sermons on "The Ten Plagues of the Cities," preached on April 12, on the "Plague of Crime." He took for his text Exodus vii. 20: "All the waters that were in the river were turned to blood."

Among all the Egyptian plagues none could have been worse than this. The Nile is the wealth of Egypt. Its fish the food. Its waters the irrigation of garden and fields. Its condition decides the prosperity or the doom of the empire. What happens to the Nile happens to all Egypt. And now in the text that great river is incarnadined. It is a red gash across an empire. In poetic license we speak of wars which turn the rivers into blood. But my text is not a poetic license. It was a fact, a great crimson appalling condition, described. The Nile rolled deep of blood. Can you imagine a more awful plague.

The modern plague which nearest corresponds with that is the plague of crime in all our cities. It halts not for bloodshed. It shrinks from no carnage. It bruises, and cuts, and strikes down, and destroys. It revels in the blood of body and soul, this plague of crime rampant for ages, and never bolder and more rampant than now. The annual police reports of these cities as I examine them are to me more suggestive than Dante's Inferno, and all Christian people as well as reformers need to awaken to a present and tremendous duty. If you want this "plague of crime" to stop, there are several kinds of persons you need to consider.

First, the public criminals. You ought not to be surprised that these people make up a large portion in many communities. The vast majority of the criminals who take ship from Europe come into our own port. In 1869 of the 49,000 people who were incarcerated in the prisons of the country, 30,000 were of foreign birth. Many of them were the very desperadoes of society, oozing into the slums of our cities, waiting for an opportunity to riot and steal and debauch, joining the large gang of American thugs and cut-throats. There are in this cluster of cities—New York, Jersey City and Brooklyn—four thousand people whose entire business in life is to commit crime. It is their lifetime business to pick pockets, and blow up safes, and shoplift, and ply the panel game, and they have as much pride of skill in their business as you have in yours.

In one year the police in this cluster of cities arrested 10,000 people for theft, and 10,000 for assault and battery, and 50,000 for intoxication. Drunkenness is responsible for much of the theft, since it confuses a man's ideas of property, and he gets his hands on things that do not belong to him. Rum is responsible for much of the assault and battery, inspiring men to sudden bravery, which they would not demonstrate, though it be on the face of the next gentleman.

Ten millions of dollars' worth of property stolen in this cluster of cities in one year. You cannot, as good citizens, be independent of that fact. It will touch your pocket, since I have to give you the fact that these three cities pay about $8,000,000 worth of taxes a year for criminal purposes. You help to pay the board of every criminal, from the sneak thief that snatches a spool of cotton, up to some man who swamps a bank.

The majority of criminals suppose that society has a grudge against them, and they in turn have a grudge against society. They are harder in heart and more infuriate when they come out of jail than when they went in. Many of the people who go to prison go again and again and again. Some years ago, of fifteen hundred prisoners, who, during the year, had been in Sing Sing, four hundred had been there before. In a house of correction in the country, where, during a certain reach of time, there had been five thousand people, more than three thousand had been there before. So, in one case the prison, and in the other case the house of correction, which we therefore known as the "bachelor are not, to no attention will be paid to them.

D. C. R., Green Spring, Ohio: If a national bank desires to issue circulating notes, which all of them don't, it is required to purchase United States bonds and deposit a certain amount in the treasury at Washington. It can then issue notes to the amount of 90 per cent of the face value of these bonds. The amount of bonds that may be deposited can not exceed the amount of its capital stock.

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The Sunday School.

Nineveh Brought to Repentance.

LESSON IV., SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 1891.

LESSON PLAN.

Topic of the Quarter—Sinning and Serving.

Golden Text for the Quarter—Godliness is profitable unto all things.—1 Tim. 4:8.

Golden Text—The men of Nineveh shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas is here.—Luke 11:32.

LESSON TEXT.

(Jonah iii, 1-10.)

1. And the word of the Lord came unto Jonah the second time, saying,

2. Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee.

3. So Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceeding great city of three days' journey.

4. And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he cried, and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown.

5. So the people of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them.

6. For word came unto the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, and he laid his robe from him, and covered him with sackcloth, and sat in ashes.

7. And he caused it to be proclaimed and published through Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything: let them not feed, nor drink water:

8. But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily unto God: yea, let them turn every one from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands.

9. Who can tell if God will turn and repent, and turn away from his fierce anger, that we perish not?

10. And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not.

ILLUSTRATIVE APPLICATIONS.

The word of the Lord came unto Jonah the second time (v. 1). We are often more ready to hear the second call of God than the first. And how good it is of Him to give us another trial! He tells us what to do, and we shrink from the duty; perhaps we shirk it. Then there comes trouble because of our failure. We have to breast heavy storms, that are on paths we were not called to enter. Possibly we find ourselves in the very depths of a sea of sorrow, which would never have overwhelmed us had we gone in the direction of God's pointing. If God were less loving, and less patient and forbearing, than he is, we should realize our folly only too late for its repairing. But, because of His goodness, His word comes to us the second time. The best work of most of us is done in paths which we refused to enter until God had called us more than once or twice.

Preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee (v. 2). If we are to be God's messengers, we must carry God's message. To go in our own name, to confer with others about their and our interests, is one thing. To go in God's name, to tell God's message to others, is another thing. In the one case we can exercise our own judgment as to the subject-matter, conference,—within bounds; in the other case we have no discretion as to the substance of our utterances. Not that which we think prudence dictates or policy suggests, but that which God's word declares, must be our message to those sinners to whom God sends us, in our sphere as preachers, as teachers, as Christian workers, in the field of our every-day labor. "Preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee" is God's command to you and to me concerning the city, the parish, the class, or the neighborhood circle, of our responsibility. None of us can improve on God's message to those to whom we go as God's messengers.

Now Nineveh was an exceeding great city (v. 3). But that didn't make its wickedness any less; in fact, it only increased the volume of evil doing and of its evil influence. When any city fails to be reached and swayed by the power of God's truth at the lips of God's messenger; when by its authorities or its public sentiment it sanctions Sabbath breaking, liquor selling, low and vile amusements, political corruption; when it fails to restrain lawlessness; when its example is on the side of godlessness—it is only to its added discredit that it is "not exceeding great city." So of any man's business, or property, or influence—if it is on the side of wrong, the larger it is, the worse it is. If a man is a distiller or a liquor dealer, or an advocate of promoting temperance by wine or beer drinking; if he has a fortune gathered by gambling or cheating; if he wields the power of a demagogue or of a political manipulator for personal or purely partisan ends—it only makes matters worse to show that his business, or his wealth, or his intellect, or his power, is exceeding great. The less there is of a bad thing, the better.

Jonah cried, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown (v. 4). That seemed to be a very senseless cry. There was no reasoning to back it. It was simply God's message heralded by God's messenger. Yet even Solomon, with all his wisdom, could never have improved on that message, for its special purpose of influencing the entire people of a pleasure-seeking great city. That is what Paul calls "the foolishness of preaching." In the opinion of godless scientists, and of logic-worshiping rationalists, it is foolishness. But here is where God's standard differs from the standard of mere scientists and rationalists. It has pleased God to give a power to the simple heralding of his message to those to whom his messages are sent, which no labored argument, and no proffered proofs, can ever attain to. He who would do God's work can never find a better way of doing it than the way of God's appointment.

And the people of Nineveh believed God (v. 5). In heeding the word of Jonah they heeded the word of God. In believing Jonah they believed God. They might have said that they did believe God, but didn't believe Jonah. They would have been responsible, however, for their disbelief of God's messenger, and must have taken the consequences of their refusal to believe. So always, when God's messenger brings God's message, those who hear it ought to heed it, ought to believe it. If they do not, the responsibility is on them. The message of God ought to commend itself to those who hear it. If it does not, the messenger cannot give any new weight to it by a labored argument in its defense.

Let them turn every one from his evil way (v. 8). It was not enough for men and beasts to be covered with sackcloth; the doers of evil must turn from their ways of evil, or their show of repentance was vain. It is no use for a man to say that he grieves over former misdeeds unless he quits present misdoing. He must stop running in debt when he has means of paying his bills, stop lying about goods he offers for sale, stop backbiting his neighbors, stop using improper language, stop being unkind or harsh or disrespectful, stop self-indulgence, stop wasting or misusing his time and talents, stop hoarding money against the calls of God's cause—turning away, in fact, from every evil course to which he has been until now addicted.

God saw their works (v. 10). The works were the evidence of their sincerity. If a man has faith in God, he will show his faith in good works. If he loves Jesus, he will prove his love by keeping the commandments of Jesus. The best evidence of the sincerity of any profession—evidence to both God and man—is found in the results of that profession. The test which God approves, and which he commends to us, is, "By their fruits ye shall know them." If you and I are truly disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ, God will see not only our faith, but our works.—[H. Clay Trumbull, in S. S. Times.

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A FINANCE PRIMER.

17.—The Present Silver Agitation.

We have now stated the facts in regard to the gradual decline in the price of silver, and the successive steps by which all great commercial countries guarded against a depreciation of their currencies either by demonetizing silver, or by restricting the amount of it in circulation. The present status of silver in all the great countries of the world may be stated briefly as follows: Great Britain has always had the gold standard, and uses silver only for subsidiary coins. The United States changed to the gold standard by the coinage law of 1873, but had really demonetized silver in effect, though not in words, by the coinage act of 1853. The Bland silver law of 1878 remonetized the silver dollar, but threw the only possible safeguard around it by restricting the amount which might be coined each year. The silver law passed last summer increased the amount—whether beyond the danger line or not, only time can determine. Germany has demonetized silver and adopted a gold standard. France and all other countries of the Latin Union have stopped the coinage of unlimited legal tender silver, keeping only enough in circulation to furnish sufficient currency. Holland has stopped the coinage of silver; Sweden and Norway have substituted gold for silver. Hence there are none of the great commercial nations of the world but have a gold standard; and those which have standard silver coins of unlimited legal tender powers, guard against their depreciation by limiting the quantity which they allow in circulation.

Now come our friends, the "free silver" men of the United States, with a demand that Congress shall authorize the free coinage of the silver dollar to any extent at the present legal ratio with gold. "Free coinage" means, that any person having silver bullion shall be allowed the privilege of having it coined at the United States mint into legal tender standard silver dollars, as many as it will make. If this were allowed, the result would be that all the silver in the country, as fast as our mints could perform the work, would be coined into silver dollars. This would, in the course of time, add enormously to the amount of silver in circulation.

The question then arises: What harm would this do? We have endeavored to show the fact in a previous article of this series that coin obtains it value, not from law, but from its price as a metal. This point is fiercely combated, of course, by the adherents of free coinage. It is the truth, nevertheless, and no sophistry can make it false. Silver is now worth about 98 cents per ounce. To make the amount of silver in the standard dollar worth a dollar, it would have to sell at $1.29 per ounce. It will be seen that it will be immensely profitable to take the 78 cents' worth of silver in a silver dollar, and have it coined into a standard dollar, which would pass for 100 cents.

The question then comes up, How long would they so pass? We do not think it would be six months after the passage of the free coinage law until all our values would be measured in the 78-cent dollar; that is, the purchasing power of the standard silver dollar would be just its worth as bullion. That would mean that our gold coin would be at a corresponding premium. It would follow that every man working on salary, or for wages, would receive his pay in silver, but in place of this silver dollar having a purchasing power of $1, as it now has, it could only buy 78 cents' worth. It would consequently mean a scaling of wages and salary of over 20 per cent. Wages would eventually—that is, in the course of two or three years—go up to about their present value. Wages are always the first thing to fall during a period of hard times, and the last to rise; and there would be a large loss to all workingmen until these values became adjusted. Meanwhile, the price of everything would go up, nominally. That which sells for $1 now, would then sell for about $1.20, measured in silver. The absolute value would remain the same, but it would be measured in the depreciated dollar. We do not think there is any possible escape from such a predicament, and to us it is the greatest objection to the adoption of free coinage on the plan now advocated.

A much wiser plan would be to increase the amount of silver in the standard dollar, so as to make it practically equal to gold. This is resisted by the free silver men, who say that, by restoring free coinage, which we have not had since 1853, the price of silver would go up to $1.29 per ounce, at which rate the present dollar would contain one dollar's worth of silver. The answer to this is, that if the decline in price of silver had been caused entirely and solely by the fact that it was demonetized by the United States, such a result would follow; but it is not true that this was the cause. Silver has been demonetized by all the great commercial nations of the world, and anything that we, or any other single nation might do, would not be enough to restore it to its coinage price. It should be clear to any one who has read the previous papers of this series that the demonetization of silver by all these nations was the result of the enormous increase of the amount of silver in the world. Either demonetization or a restriction of its coinage, which is the same thing in effect, was employed to keep gold in each country and to prevent the current values of their silver coins from depreciating.

In 1876, a committee of the English House of Commons made a report on the depreciation of silver, to which we have before referred. In that report, the decrease in the price of silver is declared to be due to three causes—first, to the discovery of the bonanza silver mines in the United States; second, to the introduction of gold currency into Germany in place of silver, which commenced at the end of 1871; third, to the decreased demand for silver for export to India, upon the adoption of the plan of issuing India council bills.

It will be noticed that the demonetization of silver in the United States is not mentioned by this committee. The reason is clear. At the time that step was taken, our only currency was paper. All of our silver was either used in the arts, or exported to Europe, because we used none for coinage. Hence the acts of 1873 and 1874 had no real effect on the decline. We have shown in a previous number the steps Germany took to change her currency from silver and paper to gold, and the subsequent one which this action compelled all the states of the Latin Union to take in the same direction. We have also explained fully that, by the use of Council bills, the direct shipment of many millions of ounces of silver to India each year was rendered unnecessary, thus adding to the increasing stock on hand in Europe.

The report of this committee then simply amounts to a statement that the quantity of silver produced was greater than the demand of civilized countries for it; therefore the price went down. And we may be sure that the price will stay down until the demand is enormously increased, or until the annual production very largely decreases. It is idle to talk of any one country being able to bring the price of silver up to the ratio of 15½ to 1 of gold, any possible argument to the contrary.

The rehabilitation of silver, to be effectual, must be through an international agreement among all the great commercial countries of the world. Efforts have been made at different times within the past few years to reach such an agreement, but England steadfastly refuses to have anything to do with the matter; she has a gold standard, her finances are in good condition, and she does not deem it wise to make the change. Germany stands with her, but would be willing to enter into such an agreement if England would do so. We will continue the discussion of this topic further in the next paper.

THE SALOON EVIL GROWING.

As every one knows, the cities of the United States are the strongholds of the Rum Power. Our largest one, New York, has a population of 1,500,000. Its liquor traffic each year is over $80,000,000, while the support of its churches of all denominations costs but $3,000,000 a year. With a population of 62,000,000 in the whole country, we spend about $900,000,000 a year for Rum, and it costs $400,000,000 a year for the support of our prisons, poor houses and asylums, three-fourths of whose inmates are there from causes directly or remotely dependent upon the use of Rum.

During the past twenty years, the temperance reform has made great progress in the United States, and the proportion of those who abstain entirely from the use of Rum in any form is much greater now than ever before. Yet in these twenty years, the manufacture of intoxicants has increased more rapidly in proportion than the population, and there is more liquor used per capita then there was a score of years ago. This shows that there is more excess now than there was at that time, that those who do drink, drink more freely than was then the case.

Nor is there anything in the situation which promises a speedy amendment of this condition. The curse of the saloon is more potent than the efforts of the workers in the temperance cause. The increase in the amount of liquor consumed is not because our people like it any better, nor because it is more palatable, but simply because the 200,000 saloons of the country are doing more active proselyting work than are the advocates of temperance.

The evil of the saloon is not the harm it does to those who are already the victims of the drink habit; its worst feature is its effect in creating that appetite in young men. The youth with a vigorous, healthy body and good digestion does not like the taste of Rum. He does not begin to drink from any liking for liquor in any form. As we have already said, it is the social feature of the saloon which draws these young men within its doors. Once there, somebody promptly offers to "treat;" to refuse is to appear unduly straightlaced, and to lack good-fellowship; the young man drinks, although he does not care to do so, and then feels it incumbent upon him to repay the obligation by "treating" in turn. This is the first step in the downward road.

He very soon gets accustomed to the taste of strong drink, and from drinking only when he is invited or when he treats in his turn, he soon comes to drink for the excitement which follows; and once he learns to drink from this cause, the way is open to drunkenness and all the woes which follow in its train. Take the 200,000 saloons in this country, and it is but a moderate allowance to estimate an average of twenty young men per year who learn to drink in each. Hence the fact is not overstated when we say that the saloon system of the United States is destroying no less than 4,000,000 young men per year.

The vice of intemperance does not end with its victim nor does it end with his becoming a sot. It is the prolific parent of vice and crime. There is not a gambling hell in the United States which does not furnish liquor to unsteady the nerves and unbalance the judgment of the poor fools who frequent them. There is not a house of ill-repute in which Rum is not at hand to inflame the baser passions of its visitors. There is not one infraction of peace and good order in twenty that is not largely or entirely due to Rum. These things are the natural outcome of the career which the young man begins when he first enters a saloon to meet his friends.

It is safe to say that no young man ever starts out with the determination to become a drunkard, or the slave of vice, or a criminal; yet look around you in any community, and see the vast numbers who are confirmed drunkards! Visit a large prison and you will find that the great majority of its unhappy inmates are there from causes which can be traced directly to the drinking habit. Visit a poor-house and inquire into the history of the unfortunates who find that their only home, and you will learn that in the cases of the majority, Rum was the initial cause of their being there. It was the careful judgment of a former superintendent of the Toledo Insane asylum that fully three-fourths of the cases of insanity within the establishment were due directly or indirectly to intemperance.

The condition of things in regard to drunkenness in the United States is grave enough to cause alarm to every thoughtful person. That condition can not be improved so long as the saloon is allowed to exist; and so long as the saloon is in existence, our condition regarding intemperance will grow worse instead of better. But the saloon cannot be suppressed until public opinion is strong enough, not only to demand its suppression, but to enforce that demand when it is enacted into law.

The obvious place of beginning any effort to change the existing order, must be with the people themselves, and it must take the shape of a campaign of education. The facts as to the magnitude of the evils resulting from the Rum traffic must be brought home to the understanding of every citizen. Every pulpit must join in the work. Our public schools must teach the children as part of their education, the evils, physical and moral, which come from indulgence in strong drink, and the scientific truth that alcohol is a poison, no more, no less, and that its use and its sale must be regulated and controlled by law the same as is done in the case of arsenic, or strychnine, or opium, or any other poison. We must educate the people until we have on our side an active majority—a majority that is not only willing to have the saloon abolished, but which will actively join in the effort to crush it out through Prohibition, and to

Pulverize the Rum Power.

FREE SUGAR NOT FREE TRADE.

It seems to be absolutely impossible for a free trade newspaper to tell the truth about any matter connected with the tariff. Why this is we cannot say, unless it be through a desire to mislead the people. The following paragraph from the Boston *Transcript*, the leading free trade sheet in that city, is a case in point:

Certain grades of sugar are admitted into our ports free of duty. And as a consequence a drop in price takes place. This goes to show that the favorite thesis of the protectionist that the foreigners pays the duty does not apply to sugar. Seriously, the decline in the price of sugar, after the duty has been remitted, is the worst blow the McKinley fabric of protection has yet received. If our people have been paying the tax that was formerly imposed on sugar, then they are also paying the customs duties imposed on other articles imported into this country.

No protectionist ever claimed that the foreign producer paid the duty on sugar imported into this country, for the simple reason that unless the beet-sugar industry proves a success or some of the improved methods now being experimented with in the production of sugar from sorghum, it has been and will be utterly impossible for us to produce at least nine-tenths of the sugar we use.

The theory of protection is this: To put an import duty on every foreign product of the kinds which we can grow, or manufacture sufficient for our needs, and to admit all those things of which we cannot produce enough for our needs free of duty.

It is a fact whose truth has been proved a thousand times that we can produce the majority of articles on which a duty is levied nearly or quite as cheaply as they can be imported from abroad. Where we cannot do this, it is because the rates of labor are higher in this country than abroad, and it is equally a plank of every protectionist's platform to keep up the wages of American labor.

Hence the placing of certain grades of sugar on the free list by the new tariff law is a triumph for protection. It has been proved impossible to increase our own sugar production to a point sufficient for our needs, hence a bounty is paid on American-grown sugar and foreign raw sugar comes in free. The result is a saving of $65,000,000 yearly to the American people, and it is a saving to everybody in the land who uses sugar. We may remark, too, that the American people use more sugar per capita than any other people in the world.

The *Transcript*, therefore, falsifies when it says that the decline in the price of sugar is "the worst blow" the McKinley tariff law has yet received. It merely shows the wisdom of that law and the soundness of the plan of taking the duty off a non-competitive article and keeping it on competitive articles.

Reciprocity is a purely protective doctrine. The reciprocity provided for by the new tariff law is for non-competitive articles, not those of which we produce sufficient for our own needs. The entire theory of protection may be summed up in a sentence thus: A tariff sufficiently high to protect everything we can produce ourselves; reciprocal free trade in those things which we cannot produce.

OUR PATENT CENTENNIAL.

On April 8 commenced in Washington the celebration of the beginning of the second centennial of the American patent system, under the auspices of a congress of inventors and manufacturers of patented inventions. The occasion is an interesting one, and has its lesson in economic discussion. A patent is virtually the granting by the government of a monopoly for a term of years, which gives to a man the chance to coin the results of his brain work into tangible profits. He has for the life of the patent the exclusive right to manufacture and sell his invention; if it be a profitable one, he has the opportunity of making a fortune.

It is a tribute to the common sense of the American people that there has never been any serious objection to the patent system, except from a few visionary cranks who have never had any following among the masses. There is no doubt but that the plan of granting patents has been the leading factor in the marvelous development of inventions in the way of labor-saving machinery that has been witnessed during the past century.

The invention of the cotton gin by ELI WHITNEY, which was perfected in 1794, cheapened cotton goods for all time. The seeds of cotton are found among the fibre in the boll, and up to that time had to be separated from it by hand. The gin rendered it possible for a machine to do the work of a thousand women and children. Thus the raw cotton was enormously cheapened to the manufacturers, with the result of cheapening everything manufactured of cotton to the consumer.

The problem of sewing by machinery had often been attempted, but all attempts had been made to imitate hand-sewing, instead of producing the stitch in a different way. ELIAS HOWE set his Yankee ingenuity to work, and put the eye of the needle in the point instead of at the other end. That invention rendered the sewing machine practicable, and HOWE made an enormous fortune from his shrewd idea. The country has profited millions of dollars from his ingenuity, and the value of his invention through all coming time is so vast as to be absolutely past all computation.

The two above mentioned are among the greatest inventions fostered by the American patent system during its first century, and the list might be enormously extended. We may mention the reaper, the revolver, the rotary printing press, the telegraph, the American locomotive, the telephone, electric light, electric motor, the Gatling and Hotchkiss guns, as among a very few inventions which may be called typical, in that they have opened the door for an infinity of additions and improvements in the field in which they were pioneers.

More patents are granted by the United States than by any other country, and the number is steadily increasing year by year. The patent office was, up to 1849, a branch of the State department. In that year the Interior department was first organized, with THOMAS EWING, sr., of Ohio, as its first secretary, and the Patent office was transferred to its care. It has now grown to be the largest division of that department, and its importance and value to the American people will doubtless be as great during the coming century as it was during the last.

Great as has been the strides in the way of labor saving machines in the nineteenth century, it is safe to say that as yet we are simply on the threshold. The opportunity for inventive talent increases with the progress of science. The scientific student, burning the midnight oil while making researches into the arcana of nature, is like the explorer who penetrates an unknown land, and brings back reliable reports as to its resources. The practical man, the inventor, follows in his footsteps, and makes the application of the theoretical laws which he has discovered to the daily business of life; and we may look for the twentieth century to produce discoveries and inventions which will make its progress even more wonderful than that of the nineteenth.

THE GRAND ARMY'S SILVER ANNIVERSARY.

On April 9, the formal celebration of the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Grand Army of the Republic began, and was continued for the next three days, at Decatur, Ill. The men to whom this magnificent order owes its origin are Dr. B. F. STEPHENSON and Rev. W. G. RUTLEDGE. The former served as surgeon of the 14th Illinois from 1861 to 1864, and the latter served as chaplain, and was his tent mate. In 1864 they discussed the idea of an order to be composed entirely of soldiers of the Union army, to preserve the friendship of comrades and provide for mutual aid.

These two gentlemen met at Springfield in March, 1866, and prepared the ritual of the proposed order. After a long discussion, they selected the name "Grand Army of the Republic" as fitting and expressive. It was decided to print the ritual, and Capt. J. S. PHELPS, at the suggestion of Gov. OGLESBY, went from Springfield to Decatur, and supervised the work. He talked with a number of old comrades about the proposed organization, with the result that they made formal application to Mr. STEPHENSON for a charter to form a post. The charter was granted on April 6, 1866, and the first post of the now mighty organization begun work at Decatur with twelve charter members.

As is always the case with n ew organizations, no matter how meritorious they may be, its early years were marked by slow progress, owing to misapprehension of its character and possible distrust of its results. As was natural, its object was misunderstood, especially by the Democrats, and it had to labor for years before it was finally recognized that it is not a purely political organization, but a benevolent and social one, patriotic to the core.

Everybody now understands it to be a grand benevolent order, which preserves the spirit of comradeship begun in the army and cemented on many a hard-fought field and weary march, which cares for the sick and disabled, which buries the soldier dead and ministers to their widows and orphans. It has done a most benevolent work during its quarter of a century of existence, and has spent in its grand work of charity millions of dollars. Its growth within the past few years has been marvelous.

At the annual national encampment in Boston last August, there was a total of 7,178 posts in 44 states and territories, with a membership in good standing of 427,981. If the increase since that time has been at the same ratio as during the previous year, the Detroit meeting will show half a million members. It has probably, however, reached its full prosperity as to membership, because death is beginning to be very busy among those who upheld the cause of national unity during the days of the rebellion, and the ranks will be thinned each year because of the members who have answered the final roll-call and gone to sleep, as WHITTIER says, in

"The low green tents
Whose curtains never outward swing."

SENATOR EDMUNDS'S RESIGNATION.

GEORGE FRANKLIN EDMUNDS, United States Senator from Vermont, in resigning that office, performed an act conspicuous for its extreme rarity. It is very seldom indeed that an American statesman of high rank voluntarily leaves politics, and resigns a high office in order to do so. Mr. EDMUNDS has placed his resignation as United States senator in the hands of the governor of Vermont, to take effect November 1 next, and has also notified Vice-President MORTON of his action. He says that the circumstances which have led him to retire from the Senate are "purely personal," but there will be much speculation as to their nature.

Mr. EDMUNDS, though an elderly man, has not yet reached the Biblical span allotted to humanity, as he was only 63 years old on February last. Born in 1828, he began the practice of law in 1849, was a representative in the Vermont legislature from 1854 to 1859, serving as Speaker for three years, and in 1861-62 was a member of the State Senate and President *pro tem.* of that body. He was appointed to the United States Senate in March, 1866, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of SOLOMON W. FOOT, and has been re-elected steadily ever since.

His present term will not expire until March 4, 1895; consequently, it will devolve upon the executive of Vermont to appoint his successor, who will, of course, be a Republican; and consequently Mr. EDMUNDS's withdrawal will make no difference in the political complexion of that body. Mr. EDMUNDS has been a man of note in his Senatorial career, and one of the most distinguished of New England Republicans. He was active in the impeachment proceedings against ANDREW JOHNSON, sided with President GRANT against CHARLES SUMNER, and was a conspicuous figure in shaping reconstruction legislation, in which he took a conservative and statesmanlike course. He was also a member of the famous Electoral Commission in 1877.

Perhaps to his efforts, as much as to those of another one man, was due the passage of the Pacific railway funding act. He is one of the numerous Republican statesmen who have been honored with a decided following in national conventions. For the Presidential nomination in the 1880 and 1884 conventions, Mr. EDMUNDS received 34 and 93 votes respectively each on the first ballot. When CHESTER A. ARTHUR became President of the United States by the death of GARFIELD, Mr. EDMUNDS was elected President *pro-tempore* of the Senate. As a member of that body he has done conspicuous work as a member of the committees on Commerce, Public Lands, Appropriations, Pensions, Retrenchment, Private Land Claims and the Judiciary, serving as chairman of the latter for several successive Congresses.

On the floor of the Senate, Mr. EDMUNDS has a well-deserved reputation for legal ability, for being a sharp and ready debater, conspicuous in repartee; and his strong desire to hold proceedings down to a strictly parliamentary basis. He has always been the enemy of political jobs and legislative intrigues of all kinds. Perhaps the most noted law of which he was the author, is the so-called "Edmunds act," passed March 22, 1882, for the suppression of polygamy in Utah—which law with its various amendments has been the most successful effort through legal means to get rid of the "twin relic of barbarism" in that territory.

There was a fierce legal battle in the Supreme court in 1884 over the constitutionality of this law, which that tribunal upheld—thus evidencing the sagacity of its its author in drafting a radical measure which would stand constitutional tests. He was the chief author of the law amendatory of the original one, passed in 1887. He also drafted the law of 1886, prescribing the manner for the counting of the electoral vote for President. His resignation takes from the floor of the Senate one of the most useful and highly esteemed Republican legislators.

HILL OPPOSED TO FREE TRADE.

Governor and Senator HILL, of New York, as everybody knows, is a competitor with GROVER CLEVELAND for the Presidential nomination next year, and he allows no one to be ignorant of the fact, now that he is opposing in every possible way CLEVELAND'S efforts to be renominated. He has taken an opportunity to do as CLEVELAND did in his famous tariff reform message, and show his party that he has the courage of his convictions. He was invited to attend a free trade meeting in New York city Thursday, and in his formal reply to the invitation, he said:

As a Democrat I must respectfully decline to support any movement, *no matter by whom instigated or championed*, having for its purpose the adoption of any such suicidal policy as is sought to be promoted by the meeting to which you have invited me.

It may strike a great many people, especially in the West, with surprise to find HILL thus declaring himself opposed to free trade, and stigmatizing it as a suicidal policy. But HILL is a shrewd, keen politician; he realizes the fact that the free trade wave, when it broke in defeat in November, 1888, on the rock of a Republican majority, had spent its force.

HILL realizes, too, that the majority of the people in the East, and the manufacturing states of the Union as far West and including Illinois, and the manufacturing interests of the new South, which are rapidly being developed under protection, are really protectionist, whether they be Democrats or Republicans, and he proposes to take advantage of this and stand manfully by protection.

It is not too much to say that HILL has thus struck with his pen a line of cleavage in the Democratic party. The Democrats of New England, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania will support him as a Democratic protectionist against CLEVELAND. CLEVELAND'S silver letter has rendered it impossible for him to obtain the solid support of his party in the South and West, and as the Democratic party has no hope of success without New York, New Jersey and Connecticut, in which the mass of the Democratic party is protectionist, HILL is in a position to fully checkmate CLEVELAND, for he has the Democracy of those states thoroughly under his thumb. Between HILL as a protectionist and CLEVELAND as an anti-free silver man, the door is open to almost any possibility in the national convention of the Democracy in 1892.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

Within a short time the various colonies of Australia—Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, West Australia and North Australia—will have united in a federation similar to that of the Dominion of Canada. The federation convention, composed of delegates from all the colonies, has been sitting for some time in Sidney, and has agreed on the leading features in the constitution under which all these colonies will come. The new union is to be called the "Commonwealth of Australia," and it is to be governed by a governor general, to be appointed by the queen. The governor of each separate colony, in place of being appointed by the British crown, as at present, is to be selected as the parliament of that colony shall decide. There is to be a Supreme court of the Commonwealth, on the model of that of the United States, and having the same powers upon all constitutional questions. It is said that the new constitution, which is nearly completed, is strikingly similar in its leading points to that of the United States, especially in the organization and distribution of the executive, legislative and judicial powers. Of course the new constitution and the plan of federation of the proposed Commonwealth will have to be approved by the government of the British Empire in London; but there is little doubt but this will be done, if the plan meets with the sanction of the majority of the voters of the Australian colonies.

PUTTING UP THE BARS.

The new immigration law, passed by the late Congress, marks definitely the close of the era of indiscriminate dumping on our shores of the paupers, criminals, idiots and other of the worst elements of European population. The new law compels the steamship companies to take back, at their own expense, all aliens brought here in violation of its terms, and of bearing the expense of their maintenance here, besides imposing penalties for the carriage of the excluded classes. One effect of the law is seen in the raising of rates of steerage passage by the steamships coming from German ports.

Immigrant transportation under the new law is not going to be the simple and easy business it used to be. The federal officials are, for the beginning at least, enforcing the law with strictness, and there is no doubt that public sentiment here will sustain them in that course. Every day now sees a number of immigrants returned on account of disease, pauperism or crime. There has been for years too great an immigration of the undesirable classes. This United States would have become the Botany Bay of the world if the bars had not been put up.

THE Massachusetts Republicans seem to be overwhelmingly in favor of "BLAINE and Business" as the Republican rallying-cry for 1892. The Boston *Record* recently sent a request to each of the Republican members of the legislature, 160 in number, asking them to indicate their first and second choice for the Republican nomination, with any remarks which they might see fit to add. Of these 160, 141 have answered. The preferences as given for first choice are as follows:

Blaine	104	Reed	5
Harrison	24	Alger	2
Sherman	6		

THE Farmers' Alliance in Mississippi has split on the sub-treasury plan. It seems to be composed of two fractions, one of which is made up of those who are more Democrats than Alliance men, and the other, those who are Alliance men first and Democrats afterwards. The former faction will not allow the sub-treasury plank to go into the Alliance platform, because it will make a general issue against the Democratic party; the other faction is determined to insist on the plank, and seems to have control of the state organization. According to Assistant State Organizer MCALISTER, since this war has been raging, the membership of the Alliance in Mississippi has fallen from 23,000 to 15,000.

THERE are probably still many ladies who have a sort of a vague idea that English scissors are the best, which supposed fact they learned from their mothers when they were little girls. It was true once, but it is not true now. The *Iron and Steel Trades Review*, of London, the leading trade journal in its line in England, says:

English scissors are still called for by ladies, but tailors and others using scissors in their daily work have long since ceased to look for the Sheffield mark. This is very significant, and the fact that an English tailor insists on American-made shears is a great slur upon us, as the very best article is needed in cutting our garments. Ten years ago English scissors brought double the price of an apparently similar article of American make.

Thus the old order changes. It is time that the American people should waken to the fact that American made goods are the best of their kind in the world. We know that the free traders in this country preach the opposite doctrine, but they are liars and the truth is not in them.

ONE of the great errors of the free traders and those who are misled by them, is in supposing that agriculture is the only really great interest of the United States. It must not be forgotten that we are the greatest manufacturing nation in the world, and have been for at least ten years. By the report of the census of 1880, it was shown that we exceeded Great Britain in the total value of our manufactures by $1,500,570,191; France by $2,115,000,000, and Germany by $89,305,000,000. This enormous growth of manufactures has been in consequence of the protective policy, and our farmers have been as much benefited by that policy as have our industries.

The Boston *Herald*, a few days ago, declared that the talk of the Republican press about American tin plate was "all nonsense," and that there was "no American tin plate to be had at a reasonable price, if at all." Now comes the New York *Press*, with an offer to fill the *Herald's* office full of American tin plate at the same price that English tin plate is sold. The *Herald*, although it is a strong free-trade paper, still has sense enough left not to accept the offer. The people will soon find that these tin plate liars are really bluffing. The tin duty is a fixture, and American tin plate will, within the next two years, be manufactured in sufficient quantities to supply all our wants.

THE recent Nebraska legislature brought that state into line for ballot reform, by passing an Australian election law. Most of the states of the North have come into line in this reform. We are sorry to say, however, that Ohio has not yet taken this step in advance; the fact is to be blamed on her Democratic legislature. The Republican of the state should not fail to incorporate in their platform this year a plank pledging the party to this legislation.

AND now the British cotton manufacturers are getting alarmed at the rapid growth of that industry in India. Their shipments of cotton twist and yarn in 1890 from Great Britain to India fell off 5,000,000 pounds; to China, 3,000,000 pounds; to Japan, 4,000,000 pounds—all of which was entirely due to the increase of this manufacture in India. The cotton men of that country expect within the next ten years to supply the entire demand of Asia.

AND now the story comes that Mr. PARNELL has married Mrs. O'SHEA'S daughter in place of that lady herself. Somehow this reminds us of MARK TWAIN'S description of the old Mormon elder who married a woman, liked her; then married her sister, liked her; then married their mother, liked her; then married the grandmother, liked her; and then branched out to marry their cousins, aunts and other female relatives, so as to embrace the whole family.

A FREE trade paper down East prints a long article in which it presents the figures to show that Europe is no longer dependent upon us for breadstuffs, owing to the increased supplies she obtains from Russia and India. This is exactly what THE BLADE has been telling the Western farmers for the past four years. We have been impressing upon them the necessity of cultivating the home market, and opening, through reciprocity, new markets in the countries south of us.

THE Democrats in the Michigan House of Representatives have passed a bill providing for the election of Presidential electors by Congressional districts. This is a purely partisan scheme, intended to allow the scoundrelly gerrymander of the state to have influence in the Presidential election. It is to be hoped the Michigan Senate will have the patriotism to kill the measure.

THE London *Standard* estimates the deficiency of the Russian and French wheat crops alone this year to be 160,000,000 bushels. The crop outlook throughout the United States for this grain is very favorable, and the industrious farmers of the country who are farming their lands in place of political fields, will probably find it a very profitable year.

THE Republicans of Michigan are wide awake. The state central committee is determined on a campaign of education in 1892, and energetic work will be done by the Republican papers of the state to let the masses of the voters know the truth on the tariff and currency questions, before casting their votes at the Presidential election.

ANOTHER tin-plate factory has been started, this time at Apollo, Pa. The proprietor is beginning in a small way, but is extending his plant as rapidly as possible. He is putting his product on the market at $16.50 per box, while English plate of the same grade sells at $21 per box.

SENATOR SHERMAN, who is a very shrewd observer, says that at one time he regarded GROVER CLEVELAND'S nomination inevitable; but now he thinks that the chances of his getting that honor are not as favorable as they were.

THE technical increase on the national debt, for March, of $440,000, is simply a matter of bookkeeping. The cash in the treasury was reduced by heavy payments, while at the same time the bonded debt was cut down $2,000,000.

AS THE Vermont legislature will not meet until the fall of 1892, Governor PAGE, of that state, will have the appointment of Mr. EDMUNDS'S successor, to serve in the United States Senate until the legislature elects.

GOVERNOR HILL, of New York, in his letter says: "I do not believe in reforming the tariff by wholly abolishing it." In this one sentence he denotes the line of demarkation between himself and Mr. CLEVELAND.

AMONG the many other good things done by the Fifty-first Congress was the purchase of over 8,000,000 acres of land from the Indians, and opening it to settlement.

IN spite of the "McKinley prices," the Republican party in the West seems to be doing very nicely, if we are to judge by the spring elections.

CURRENT EVENTS.

Up to the year 1841 there was no vehicle in California except a rude cart.

In one year the cost to the government of twine to tie up mail packages reaches $72,000.

A new typewriter, under the "point" system, produces writing which the blind can read.

It is estimated officially that the gross expenses of the world's fair will reach $21,500,000.

There are 377.77 grains of pure silver in a Mexican dollar, and 371¼ grains in an American dollar.

Real estate values in Austin, Tex., are lower than in any city in the country of equal population.

A Brazilian barque, which arrived in New York the other day, reports seeing 84 whales in one day.

Custer county, Montana, is the largest county in the United States. It contains 30,000 square miles.

The United States has referred 83 international disputes to arbitration during the present century.

An olive oil factory, to cost $250,000, including the acreage, is about to be built at Los Guilcos, Sonoma county, Cal.

Iowa ended 1890 with a total product of about 85,000,000 pounds of butter, besides that consumed by her own people.

Between the island of Madagascar and the coast of India are 16,000 islands, great and small, only 600 of which are inhabited.

Three of the twenty-three surviving widows of the Revolution now on the nation's pay roll live in Windsor county, Vt.

In Annam, a French colony in Eastern Asia, there is in circulation a coin, the "loot," which is a flat, round gold piece, worth $65.

Since the establishment in 1802 of West Point military academy, 3,381 men have received diplomas from that institution.

A Kansas woman began saving dimes a year and a half ago, and she broke her bank open the other day and counted out $118.70.

The most expensive street car in the world is owned by the Scott Electric Railway company, of Cleveland. The car cost $10,000.

A petition against the employment of young girls as barmaids has been presented the king of Sweden. The petition has 10,000 signatures.

Boston is compelled to pay on an average $15,000 a year on account of injuries sustained by people who meet with accidents on the sidewalks.

A Newburyport, Mass., man is the proud possessor of a pair of pure gum shoes, which have been in continous use in one family for over 60 years.

Ellen Terry has published in the *New Review* the first of a charmingly written series of articles founded upon interesting reminiscences of her own life.

The Diamond plate glass works, of Kokomo, Ind., has turned out a plate of glass measuring 194x78 inches, said to be the largest ever made in this country.

Glucose is produced in the United States at the rate of 1,000,000 pounds per day, principally in the Western states. The bulk of it enters into home consumption.

Venice has 140,000 inhabitants. Of these no less than 40,000 are enrolled as recipients of relief; that is to say, nearly one-fourth of the population are paupers.

Mrs. King, the "cattle king" of Corpus Christi, Texas, recently sold 25,000 head of 2-year-old steers for $62,500, probably the largest single order for cattle ever filled in Texas.

Major McKinley is a rising star of after-dinner speech-making, and it is expected that he will be able to take Mr. Depew's place if that gentleman should happen to be sent to jail.

In Ireland the number of arrests for drunkenness steadily increases. In 1876, there were 78,000 arrests; in 1886, the number was 86,000; in 1889 the number reached 87,000, and in 1890 climbed up to 92,000.

Mrs. Helen Gougar says she has kept a record of the accounts of wife murder by drunken husbands published in the daily papers since January 1, 1888. The aggregate number is 3,000.

A "blue-book" issued by the English government last week shows that 1,500 drink shops are owned by peers of the realm. The "Right Reverend" Bishop of Llandaff is the owner of two "places."

Governor David Bennett Hill's fame rests on two simple declarations, "I am a Democrat." To this sententious phrase must now be added, "I am not a free trader." David is a great condenser.

Franz von Suppe, the well known musician, recently celebrated, in Vienna, his fiftieth anniversary as a composer. He received telegrams of congratulation from all parts of the civilized world.

A colony of two or three hundred monkeys is reported to exist in the everglades of Florida. They are supposed to owe their origin to the wreck of a vessel upon the coast having on board monkeys, which escaped to the forest.

The earl of Albemarle, now in his ninety-second year, is one of the few survivors of Waterloo. He was present at the famous ball in Brussels on the eve of the battle and left the ball room to join his company in the field.

The word "states" was first officially used May 15, 1776, when Mr. Archibald Cary reported to the Virginia convention, then in session at Williamsburg, the famous resolution "to declare the United Colonies free and independent states."

The Italian Sarah Bernhardt is Mlle. La Deus, who has recently appeared with immense success in Rome as Camille. She is going to Russia and may come over here and pick up the dollars which escape the Frenchwoman's grasp.

Soapstone is largely used in China for preserving structures built of sandstone and other stones liable to crumble from climatic effects. It is powdered, and put on in the form of paint, and will preserve buildings for hundreds of years.

The highest chimney in the world, that at Halsbruckner Hutte, near Freiburg, Saxony, has been finished, 460 feet high. Its diameter at the base is 23 feet, and sixteen feet at the top, the inner diameter being eight feet. It is built of clay stone.

The average age of state convicts in Kansas, when the prohibitory law went into effect, was 22 years. After ten years of prohibition the state prison report shows the average age of convicts to be 30 years, with a falling off in numbers of 60 per cent.

A Frenchman in the province of Lorraine bequeathed France $800 with which to buy arms to fight Germany in the next war. As he was dead when he made his will the Germans arrested his brother as accessory to the crime of sedition and conspiracy.

Nine hundred million dollars was spent in this country in 1890 for spirituous and malt liquors, $122,300,000 for coffee, and $36,000,000 for tea. The extravagance of the American people in the use of coffee and tea is as onishing, and worthy of reproof.

A protest has been sent from India to the House of Commons, which characterizes the sale of opium under license of the British government as "utterly indefensible on moral grounds—an outrage against God and the millions who are under British rule in India."

During the month of December the sun did not shine once in London. During the entire year 1890, out of a possible 4,455 hours, when it should or might have been visible, it, as a fact, was visible only 1,092 hours, and these were mainly in the afternoons.

First Assistant Postmaster General Whitfield is authority for the statement that the oldest postmaster in the country in point of service is Roswell Beardsley, who is appointed postmaster at North Lansing, Tompkins county, N. Y., June 28, 1828, and still holds the office.

Maria E. Swann, widow of the founder of the Philadelphia Fountain society, directed in her will that the executors of her estate should invest $3,000 and pay the income thereof to Margaret Hall for the care and maintenance of my dear little dog Dot, intrusting her to her care."

J. B. Grinnell, founder of the Iowa city which bears his name, who died, as was announced last week, was the particular person to whom Horace Greeley addressed that famous remark, "Go West, young man, and grow up with the country." He was a young Congregational minister in New York state before he acted on this advice.

A Southern genius has made out of a dry goods box a clock that keeps thirteen different times with perfect accuracy. It shows the time in Atlanta, San Francisco, Cairo, Egypt, Jerusalem, Paris, Berlin, St. Petersburg, France; Quebec, Canada; Melbourne, Australia; City of Mexico; Dublin, Ireland; Berlin, Germany, and Rome, in Italy.

On a pane of glass at an inn in London is scratched the following inscription: "Thomas Mount Jones dined here March 16, 1850, and ate six pounds of bacon and drank nineteen pints of beer." It is a question for discussion whether this full memorial owes its existence to a desire for fame and distinction or to the boastfulness of a glutton.

The present governor general of Canada is exceedingly fond of the noble game of foot ball, and it is said that when he first came to Canada he used to shock the people of Ottawa by playing the game on Sunday with the male members of his family and their friends. He received an

Science Causerie.

Matting Made of Pine Leaves.

The utilization of pine tree leaves for the manufacture of bagging, matting, etc., has become an industry of recognized importance, and in North Carolina a company has for some time been in operation for thus producing matting and bagging, and with a daily capacity of 2,000 yards, the material being in every respect equal to jute, as well as cheaper. The leaves of the long-leaf pine are gathered in a mass, and, on being weighed, are thrown into large vats, where they are boiled in alkali at a low temperature for about twelve hours; then, after being thoroughly soaked in the same vats, they are taken by a continuous automatic process through the rubbing wringing, carding, drying, recarding, drawing, roving, winding and weaving machines, in the latter of which the substance becomes an excellent article of bagging, and after going through a calendaring apparatus, is ready for use and the market. After leaving the wringer the process of manufacture is very nearly identified with that of cotton goods. As a material for upholstery purposes and for carpet lining it is found well adapted. It appears that for every foot of pine timber there is one pound of green leaves; nor is the tree at all injured by this treatment. Though capable of being worked up successfully into the other fabrics above named, the principal use of the leaves thus far has been for the manufacture of bagging.

The Caspian and Aral Seas.

The Sea of Aral is drying up, and will some day disappear altogether. We are now told that its great feeder, the Oxus river, threatens again to desert the Aral and pour its waters into the Caspian, a phenomenon which has occurred twice within historic times. Though they have no outlets, the waters of the Caspian and Aral seas are merely brackish. Around their shores are a number of large gulfs almost land locked, and therefore nearly separated from the seas. The depth of water in these gulfs is small, and the evaporation is enormous. Currents from the seas are constantly setting into these gulfs. The water never merges into the seas again, but disappears through evaporation, leaving saline deposits. The Aral and Caspian seas, therefore, are constantly losing saline matter deposited in these great inlets, while they are receiving water with very little salinity. So we have the phenomenon of salt lakes gradually freshening.

Sunburn on Snow.

Sunburn on the snow has been the subject of an interesting investigation by Dr. Robert L. Bowles, of England. Alpine climbers concede the curious fact that sun on snow burns more quickly than on rocks or in heated valleys at a low elevation; and Dr. Bowles remarks that sunlight reflected from freshly fallen snow acts much more energetically on the skin than that reflected from older snow. Dr. Bowles one brilliant day painted his face brown and ascended the Gornier Grat, where there was a large quantity of snow. There were about eighty others making the ascent. In the evening all except Dr. Bowles were smarting from the effects of sunburn. Dr. Bowles concludes that heat is not the direct cause of sunburn, but it is probably caused by the violet or ultra violet rays of light which are reflected from the snow.

An Onyx Vein in the Ozarks.

Large deposits of onyx have been found in the Ozark mountains, only a short distance from St. Louis. The only onyx in the market has hitherto came from Puebla, Mexico, so the discovery of this new vein is of considerable commercial importance. Onyx is very valuable, selling for from $3 to $15 a cubic foot, the buyer taking the risk of possible flaws below the surface. In mining, no powder can be used, as it would shatter the valuable rock, so holes are drilled in rows and wooden plugs inserted. These are then caused to swell by soaking in warm water, and a solid mass of the desired size is thus separated without danger. The onyx is reached through a wide-mouthed cave in the mountain side, so it can be marketed at very slight expense.

African Diamond Fields.

Geologists have proved that the diamond mines of South Africa are situated in vents or chimneys, varying from about 70 feet to 1,500 feet in diameter, and descending vertically through the schists which form the ordinary strata of the district. These vents are filled up with fragments of silicated and magnesian rocks, in which the diamonds are scattered, and before the diggings began each was capped by a hillock or "kopje." They are seventeen in number, and run in a straight line about 120 miles.

Heaviest Atmospheric Pressure.

The highest atmospheric pressure on record seems to be 31.72 inches, which occurred at Sempalatinski, on Dec. 16, 1877; and the lowest at any land station is quoted at 27.12 inches, which was recorded on the coast of Orissa, on Sept. 22, 1885. The difference of 4.6 in these readings is probably the maximum range of the barometer ever observed on the earth's surface.

Great Meteoric Stones.

In an account of Mexican meteorites Mr. L. Fletcher, an English mineralogist, describes fourteen huge masses of iron which have been found within a small section of country. The largest has the form of a bee-hive, rises four feet above the ground, and is five feet in diameter at the surface of the soil, beneath which it extends to unknown depths.

Blackened Teeth.

The blackened teeth of the Malays and Siamese are not produced, as has been supposed heretofore, by coating them with a mixture of betel and lime, but by rubbing the teeth with a paste made from charred cocoanut kernels. This is carefully applied to the teeth again and again, until a black varnish hides the natural white.

Won't Melt by Pressure.

Mr. R. W. Wood, jr., has submitted ice at melting point to a pressure of twenty tons per square inch without liquefying it. He concludes, therefore, that the peculiar motions of glacial ice cannot be due to a layer of pressure molten water beneath the mass.

The Arc Light.

Prof. Thomson has recently shown very plainly that between the carbons of an arc light there pours a steady stream of carbon vapor, and the light is derived almost exclusively from the enormous heated surface at which the evaporation takes place.

Notes.

In order to preserve wire rope it should be covered with raw linseed oil mixed with vegetable tar.

A French authority estimates that cats are responsible for 30 per cent of the cases of common contagious diseases.

An Australian photographer is reported to get excellent pictures of objects at a distance of sixteen miles.

Natural gas, it is stated, has been found near Middlesborough, England, beneath the salt, a depth of about eight hundred feet from the surface.

An immense 200-ton piece of granite, which will dress to a pillar six feet in diameter by 45 feet long, has recently been quarried near Petersburg, Va.

A foreign watchmaker has patented a device by which an hour or two before a clock runs down the word "wind" will appear at an opening in the dial.

The Alliance in Ohio.

Ohio State Journal.

The Rawlins bill is not likely to be revived and the Farmers' Alliance, the secret or Southern branch, will have a state convention here next Thursday, when they expect to take some action. The secret Alliance is not very strong in Ohio, but the open Alliance with 100 auxiliary organizations is the one that has the power.

$6000.00 a year is being made by John R. Goodwin, Detroit, Mich. At work for us. Reader, you may not make as much, but we can teach you quickly how to earn from $5 to $10 a day at the start, and more as you go on. Both sexes, all ages. In any part of America, you can commence at home, giving all your time, or spare moments only to the work. All is new. Great pay SURE for every worker. We start you, furnishing everything. EASILY, SPEEDILY learned. PARTICULARS FREE. Address at once, STINSON & CO., PORTLAND, MAINE.

THE LAWYER'S LULLABY.

Be still, my child! remain in statu quo,
While I propel thy cradle to and fro.
Let no involved res inter alios
Prevail while we're consulting inter nos.

Was that a little pain in medias res?
Too bad! too bad! we'll have no more of these.
I'll send a capias for some wise expert
Who knows how to eject the pain and stay the hurt.

No trespasser shall come to trouble thee:
For thou does own this house in simple fee—
And the administrators, heirs, assigns,
To have, to hold, convey, at thy designs.

Correct thy pleadings, my own baby boy,
Let there be an abatement of thy joy;
Quash every tendency to keep awake,
And verdict, costs, and judgment thou shall take.
—[F. H. Cogswell in Boston Transcript.

GOV.-SEN. HILL—"Poor Randall dead—ah! I am the great Protective Democrat. There's something in it, too. Watch me and see!"

OUR POSITION.

NewYork *Tribune*:—Secretary Blaine's answer to the Italian government's demand as set forth in Baron Fava's last official communication is perfectly clear, logical and conclusive.

New York *Times* (Dem.):—Mr. Blaine's treatment of the affair is admirable, because its good temper leaves the Italian government every chance to retire from or to change a false position.

Kansas City *Star*:—It is gratifying that the state department of the government is in the hands of a man who is well equipped for the diplomatic correspondence which the New Orleans affair has brought about.

New York *Continent*:—The withdrawal of the Italian minister from Washington gives our secretary of state an admirable opportunity to display his mastery of the game of international diplomacy. Every advantage is now on his side.

Kansas City *Times* (Dem.):—The Italian diplomatists who are riding high horses just at present should remember that they are in the lists against the world-renowned and doughty Thomas of Randolph, whose lance is sharp and arm mighty.

Philadelphia *Press*:—The just, dignified and temperate tone of the dispatch in which Secretary Blaine states the position of the United States in dealing with the New Orleans massacre, will command the confidence and insure the respect of the civilized world.

Cleveland *Plaindealer* (Dem):—The concluding sentences of Mr. Blaine's letter to the Italian charge d'affaires have the right ring, and will be heartily approved by the American people, however much they may differ with Mr. Blaine on political matters.

Minneapolis *Journal*:—The country can rest assured that Mr. Blaine is not going to permit our country so be made a fulcrum where the Crispi faction and the Rudini faction may place their factional levers to influence the Italian public and promote their own personal interests.

Minneapolis *Tribune*:—The note of Mr. Blaine is conciliatory in tone but it is firm and the closing is unmistakable in its meaning. "The United States will not take answer to any demand until every fact essential to a correct judgment shall have been fully ascertained through that authority."

Nashville *American* (Dem.):—We cannot fail to admire the firm and spirited tone with which Mr. Blaine serves notice upon the Italian government that the United States will not be frightened into any hurried or precipitate action, and the language of diplomacy does not conceal the defiance with which he meets the vile insolence of the Italian government. Mr. Blaine has decidedly the best of it, and has maintained the dignity of the United States government with admirable skill, temper and spirit.

ITALY'S NAVY.

A Formidable List of Big War Ships —Details of the Fleet.

The naval force of Italy is now divided as follows:

Twelve first class ironclad battleships, with 132 guns and 5,658 men.

Three second-class ironclad battleships, with 22 guns and 727 men.

Ten second-class unarmored battleships, with 88 guns and 2,588 men.

Nineteen third-class battleships, with 89 guns and 1,097 men.

Five transports of the first-class, with 23 guns and 1,004 men.

Seven second-class transports, with 16 guns and 411 men.

Five third-class transports, with 8 guns and 201 men.

Six schoolships, with 40 guns and 1,456 men.

Five ironclads, armored and unarmored, for coast defence, with 23 guns and 1,200 men.

Forty-six ordinary fighting ships, with 31 guns and 1,100 men.

Seven torpedo sloops, with 20 guns.

Fifty seagoing torpedo-boats, with 100 guns and 856 men.

Thirty-eight coast torpedo-boats, with 38 guns.

Twenty-one second-class torpedo-boats, with 21 guns.

This fleet, large enough to grapple with such great navies as those of France or England, is manned in time of war by 1,903 officers and 61,007 men, of whom 2,000 are gunners.

Expressions for Long Distances.

The measures of long distances have varied widely at different times and with different nations, to say nothing of the comparisons used in different sections of our country. For instance:

The Jews said "from Dan to Beersheba."

The Persians say, "from Medina to Mecca."

The English say, "from Land's End to John O'Groat's."

The Yankee says, "from Maine to Texas."

The Southerner says, "from Florida to Alaska."

The Sucker and Hoosier says, "from the great lakes to the gulf."

The Southern American says, "from the Isthmus to the Horn."

In Louisiana they say, "from New Orleans to Pittsburg."

In California the common expression is "from Altaville to Pilot Knob."—[Chicago Globe.

Drawing an Inference.

"You have been so long about the minister's hand, John, that I dare say you could preach a sermon yourself now," said a gentleman one day to a beadle of his acquaintance.

"Oh, na, sir," replied John, "I couldna preach a sermon." Then, after a brief pause, he remarked, "But perhaps I could draw an inference though."

"Well, John," said the gentleman, humoring the quiet vanity of the beadle, "what inference could you draw from this text? 'A wild ass . . . snuffeth up the wind at her pleasure.'" (Jeremiah ii. 24.)

"Weel," replied John, "the only natural-like inference that I could draw frae it is just this—that she wad snuff a lang time afore she would fatten on it."—[The Gentleman's Magazine.

—Well, Sarah, what have you been doing to make you look so young? Oh, nothing much, only been using Hall's Hair Renewer to restore the color of my hair.

A Little Girl's Wish.

A little Brattle street girl, struggling with her arithmetic the otaer day, put down her book, and, looking out of the window, said, with a deep sigh: "Oh, dear, mamma, I wish I were an Australian rabbit." "What on earth do you say such an absurd thing for, Ethel! Why would you like to be an Australian rabbit?" "Because, mamma, I read in the newspapers that they multiplied with wonderful rapidity."—[Cambridge Tribune.

The Girl Will Yet Do the Same.

The Epoch.

While the girl of the per od is shining in the parlor, her mother is shinning in the kitchen.

THAT BELL BOY.

A Drummer's Experience with an Unusually Bad One.

When I became a commercial traveler, I felt that I had a mission to perform in the interest of the fraternity. I believed that there were a good many abuses lingering about the hotels of the land which might be ameliorated with the aid of a good, hard cheek and plenty of kicking.

The first abuse against which I set my lance was the bell boy abuse. The bell boy is born, not made. He rageth about the corridors of the inn, seeking whom he may aggravate unto the pitch of profanity. Early in my mad career I became convinced that he who could take the hide off from two bell boys where the hide off only one had been taken before would go down to posterity as a public benefactor.

I resolved to make an example of the first bell boy who fell into my hands.

I found him on the line of the Michigan Central railway, and a more innocent-looking rascal I never met. He sat on a bench in the office reading "Bloody Bob; or the Black Burglar from Blindman's Bay." It was in the middle of the afternoon, but I went to my room for the express purpose of holding an executive session with him.

I rang the bell at 2:45 and sat down to write some letters. At 3:05 the door opened with a bang and my friend of the gory romance entered.

"Did you ring?"

"Did I ring?" I repeated, musingly. "I believe I did ring for some wood a long time ago, but the summer is here now, and you may bring me some ice water."

The youthful villian made a face at the door knob that would have done credit to Quilp, and went out.

At 3:25 he came back with half a pint of water and a piece of ice a trifle smaller than the marbles he was rattling in his pocket.

"What's that?" I asked.

"Ice water."

"Where's the ice?"

"In the water."

"Oh, I didn't see it anywhere around, and I thought perhaps you had it in one of your vest pockets. Ice come high now?"

"This ice come four stories high. Anything else?"

"Yes, if you think you can get back before dark, go to the bar and get me a cigar."

"Fiver ten?"

"Ten."

At 3:45 he came back with a broken cigar and one match.

"Did you have to wait long, sonny?" I asked.

"Huh?"

"Did you have to wait long?"

"Wot fer?"

"For some bootblack to throw this away."

"It's just as I got it. Is that the first cigar you ever had, mister?"

"Yes, sonny, and you may take it and tie it to the tail of the first cow you see climbing a telegraph pole."

"Anything else?"

"Yes; I'm coming here in January, and you may as well begin to build a fire now. What became of Bloody Bob?"

"Oh, he got fresh and the devil turned him into a drummer. Anything else?"

I couldn't think of anything else just then, and the boy went away, leaving me to my letters and my sad thoughts. For the next half hour every one who passed my room stopped a moment and went away laughing. At last I opened the door and found this placard:

BEWARE!

Crazy man in this room.

Please do nothing to agitate him.

I appealed from the bell boy to the clerk.

If I could have secured possession of the boy for about ten minutes, the appeal would never have been taken. I saw the smiling face of the young imp peering around an angle of the hallway as I passed down stairs, but I did not attempt to catch him. Once or twice in my lifetime I have endeavored to arrest the small boy in his hasty flight, and I am satisfied these were the most unprofitable movements I ever knew.

I placed the placard on the counter before the clerk.

"What's that?" he asked.

"Read it."

He adjusted his eyeglasses to the bridge of a nose that immediately rejected them, and then proceeded to read the placard without their assistance.

"That seems to be all right," he said with a smile meant to be encouraging.

"But I found it posted on the door of my room."

"Oh; inside or out?"

"Outside, you blasted idiot."

"Did you put it there?"

"Did I put it there? you——"

"Oh, never mind," said the clerk, going back to his books. "I didn't know but you carried your sign with you when you traveled. Shall I do it up for you?"

I intimated to the clerk that if he'd take the bell boy and go out in the back yard I'd do them up.

"Yes, yes," said the clerk, impatiently, "I have plenty of opportunities like that. What's the boy got to do with it?"

"He put this thing on the door of my room, I tell you."

The clerk hit the bell and young Asmodeus came skulking out of the check room.

"Did you make that?" asked the clerk.

"Noap."

"Did you post it on the door of No. 47?"

"Noap."

"Ever see it before?"

"Noap."

"You can go."

He stepped around the corner of the counter, ran his tongue out about three inches and vanished.

I sank into a chair in a sort of daze. There were plenty of things I might have said, but as I ran them over in my mind they all seemed inadequate to the occasion.

"See here," I said at length to the clerk, "I believe you wrote that."

He never looked up from his books.

"And bribed that young imp to hang it on the door of my room."

Scratch, scratch, scratch!

"And I'll advertise your bed-buggy old shebang the whole length of the road!"

The clerk hit the bell and the boy again skulked out of the check room.

"Bring a bag of ice for this gentleman's head and a pound of salt."

"Yessir."

There wasn't any use of my staying there and collecting a crowd, was there? I went to my room and packed up.

The bell boy nuisance still exists.—[Michigan Tradesman.

FASHIONABLE FADS.

Pepper colored cloth is the newest for street gowns.

The panier is being revived in Paris for some of the spring gowns.

Foulards, grenadines and crepons will be made with paniers this summer.

Cloth is not much used for dress, serge and cheviots having taken their places.

Gray, mastic, navy blue and flame color are the predominating shades this season.

Some of the new stuffs for dresses have shining white crystal beads woven in them.

To be in fashion in Paris the hair has to be worn in wavy undulations at the side of the face.

Pet cats are often adorned with bangles: eight or ten of these hoops have sometimes been seen on one cat.

Veils are worn to cover the chin. Every girl with or without a good complexion wears one at this time of the year.

White stockings are now much worn in the house, but black silk, plain or with embroidery, are in favor for the the street.

Diamond parures presented by millionaire friends to Easter brides consist of bracelat, earrings, ring and brooch. The brooch is made so that it may be used as a pendant or as a ferronniere, an ornament placed on the forehead just where the hair begins.

A $700 Dispatch.

The wife of a Boston broker sailed for Pern to visit her sister, and when she arrived there she sent him a cablegram which cost him $700 to announce the fact. The most of the message, however, told how her dog fell overboard and could not be saved.

The Tariff Don't Hurt Exports.

Philadelphia Bulletin.

A vessel left this city yesterday with a cargo of locomotives for Australia. This is one Philadelphia product that seems to have no difficulty in finding foreign markets. There are other important ones.

A Pertinent Query.

Fairfield, Iowa, Ledger.

If you can buy sugar and tin cheaper now than a year ago, and your live stock and grain are bringing better prices than for several years past, how much did the "infamous McKinley bill" hurt you?

A SACCHARINE SYMPHONY.

Sweet April-time had come at last,
As o'er the continent there passed
A Bill McKinley-hating man,
Who murmured as the month began,
"Sugar!"

His face was sad, it made him ill
To think of Bill McKinley's bill:
He fiercely fought it once, but now
He whispered, as he wiped his brow,
"Sugar!"

"Hip, hip, hurrah!" his ears did greet
From those who take their coffee sweet;
Delight on all their faces shone,
But from his lips escaped the groan,
"Sugar!"

"Oh, stay," the Godkin said, "and rest
Thy head upon this free-trade breast;"
A wink slow twisted up his eye,
But still he answered with a sigh,
"Sugar!"

"Try no protection schemes," said Mills,
"Protection me with anguish fills,
Protection measures are but vile."
The youth observed, with sickly smile,
"Sugar!"

"Beware of Bill McKinley's bill—
Beware that sum of every ill,"
Thus Cleveland begged in tones dismayed;
A voice replied, far down the grade,
"Sugar!"

That evening, as the Cobden crowd
Against McKinley thundered loud,
The youth compelled them all to quit,
He did it with a word, to wit,
"Sugar!"

A stranger to his hobby bound,
Half-buried in chagrin was found,
And, firmly sticking in his throat,
Was found that sweet, that single note,
"Sugar!"

There, in the consomme so cool,
He posed a first of April fool,
While, sounding all the country o'er,
A voice came, like the ocean's roar,
"Sugar!"
—[New York Tribune.

SUGAR IS CHEAPER.

St. Mary's *Graphic*:—We are now getting the *sweet* benefits of the McKinley bill.

Fulton Co. *Republican*:—The Michigan papers say that brown sugar and sawdust are quoted at the same price in Muskegon.

Athens *Messenger*:—Doubtless cheap sugar had a sweetening influence on the gratifying results of last Monday's elections in this locality.

Findlay *Jeffersonian*:—The Republican party has made sugar two cents a pound cheaper since April 1, and the Democratic party has never made anything cheaper except the wages of laborers.

Paulding *Republican*:—With tin cans and sugar cheaper than ever known before, canned goods will cease to be a luxury, and even poor editors may indulge therein frequently. Thanks, awfully, Mr. McKinley.

THE PAINTINGS OF POMPEII.

Their Rich, Harmonious Coloring—Their Wonderful Charm—Their Origin.

Of all the remarkable things found at Pompeii none are more important than the pictures, on account of the light they throw on ancient painting. While many masterpieces of Greek sculpture and architecture have come down to us, the Greek paintings, from the fragility of their nature, have perished, and it is chiefly in the Roman ruins that we find some tradition of them left. At Pompeii every house and every room was decorated with frescos. The best of these were at first removed for their preservation to the museum at Portici, which was incorporated into the Naples Museum early in this century.

Descriptions can hardly give an idea of the charm of these pictures, of their rich, harmonious coloring, which many art critics have compared to Titian's, of the serene, joyous conceptions of human life, of the grace and dignity of the figures. Stately gods and goddesses, sporting cupids, bacchantes, fauns, centaurs, dolphins, arabesques, are multiplied in infinite variety. Most of the subjects are taken from Greek mythology, but some represent scenes from the daily life of the Pompeians and throw much light on their habits and occupations. With few exceptions, the subjects are treated with taste and delicacy. In a civilization where to the gods themselves were ascribed the passions of mortal men, it is not to be wondered that art sometimes ministered to the licentious ideas of the day; but those pictures which have been removed from public view are few compared with those which must delight even the severest moralist.

Credit to Helbig specially belongs the merit of having traced these pictures to their origin. He divides them into two groups —those that have an idealistic and those that have a realistic tendency. The former include the mythological subjects and a certain number of scenes from real life, such as female figures in meditation, at their toilet, painting or playing on musical instruments, and frequently in company with Eros. A few of the mythological subjects are dramatic, but most of them bear an idyllic character, representing scenes full of serenity and repose which the eye dwells on with pleasure.—[The Edinburgh Review.

WORTH KNOWING.

Labor day is now a legal holiday in fourteen states.

There are 1,135,000 freight cars in the United States.

Salt is cheaper in some parts of Kansas than plastering sand.

There are over 100 miles of streets paved with wood in London.

A hotel is to be built on top of Pike's Peak—14,300 feet high.

London, with a population of 5,000,000, support nineteen public schools.

Rome is said to be growing faster than any other European city.

It takes $22,000,000 to pay the expenses of Philadelphia for one year.

There are in the world 1,500,000 coal miners and 4,000,000 metal miners.

Real estate nine miles from the center of Chicago sells for $4,000 an acre.

On Jan. 1 the total savings bank deposits in Prussia were $775,000,000.

The deposits in one of Philadelphia's savings banks amount to $23,000,000.

The Indians of Alaska are reported to be fond of strawberries soaked in seal oil.

A cable is contemplated from San Francisco to Australia at a cost of $3,500,000.

LIVED ON HUMAN BEINGS.

Horrible Confession of a Cannibal Now Confined in Prison.

A letter from Rio Janeiro to the New York *Herald* says:

There is in prison at Salinas, state of Minas Geraes, a monster in human form. The following from the *Journal Ciudade de Leopoldina* tells his strange story:

There has been confined in the jail an individual who for months had been living on human flesh. His name is Clemente Villiza. He is a mulatto, about twenty-eight years old, medium height and slight body, a flat forehead, oblique eyes, with black pupils, and deformed feet with concave soles.

"How did you make your first victim?" he was asked.

"I was at Leandro's house when he invited me to eat a piece of a boy that he had killed in a thicket where the lad was gathering fruit, and as I was very hungry and had no other resource, I accepted the invitation for the first time. On the next day returning I found a woman asleep by the roadside and was at once tempted to kill her. I took a stone and made my first victim and carried her home to satisfy my hunger. Some days later I killed Simplio and invited Franczia and Severs who were dying from starvation, to help me eat him.

"When Simplio's flesh was finished and I, being without any means of satisfying my hunger, Franczia told me to kill her that I might eat of her, which I did. Two weeks after in the same straits, Basilio and I killed Franczia for the same purpose. Afterward I found that Basilio had stolen a shirt from me and I killed him when he was unsuspiciously gathering roots for supper.

"I had only eaten a little from him when I was arrested, two days after killing him. This was the last I killed."

The police found a part of Basilio salted down, and the cannibal eating the calves of the victim's legs with a good appetite.

"Does human flesh have an agreeable taste?"

"No; it is rather sweetish. The best things I found in those I killed were the brains, tongue and marrow."

"How did you prepare the flesh for eating?"

"We ate it roasted or boiled, with a good deal of pepper."

"Do you sleep well?"

"Perfectly quiet."

Female Weakness Positive Cure. Free. I have a positive remedy for the thousand and one ills which arise from deranged female organs. I will send two bottles of my remedy FREE to any lady, if they will send their express and P. O. address. Yours truly, DR. J. B. MARCHISI, UTICA, N. Y.

SUMTER'S GUN.

Colonel Robert G. Ingersoll on the First Gun of the War.

For about three-quarters of a century the statesmen, that is to say, the politicians of the North and South, had been busy making compromises, adopting constitutions and enacting laws; busy in making speeches, framing platforms and political pretenses to the end that liberty and slavery might dwell in peace and friendship under the same flag.

Arrogance on one side, hypocrisy on the other.

Right apologized to Wrong for the sake of the Union.

The sources of justice were poisoned and patriotism became the defender of piracy.

In the name of humanity mothers were robbed of their babes.

Thirty years ago to-day a shot was fired, and in a moment all the promises, all the laws, all the constitutional amendments and all the idiotic and

R. G. INGERSOLL.

heartless decisions of courts, and all the speeches of orators inspired by the hope of place and power, were blown into rags and ravelings, pieces and patches.

The North and South had been masquerading as friends, and in a moment, while the sound of the shot was ringing in their ears, they faced each other as enemies.

The roar of that cannon announced the birth of a new epoch. The echoes of that shot went out not only over the bay of Charleston, but over the hills, the prairies and forests of the continent.

These echoes said marvellous things and uttered prophecies that none were wise enough to understand.

Who at that time had the slightest conception of the immediate future? Who then was great enough to see the end? Who then was wise enough to know that the echoes would be kept alive and repeated for years by thousands and thousands of cannon, by millions of muskets, on the fields of ruthless war?

At that time Abraham Lincoln, an Illinois lawyer, was barely a month in the President's chair, and that shot made him the most commanding and majestic figure of the nineteenth century —a figure that stands alone.

Who could have guessed the names of the heroes to be repeated by countless lips before the echoes of that shot should have died away?

There was at that time a young man at Galena, silent, unobtrusive, unknown; and yet, the moment that shot was fired he was destined to lead the greatest host ever marshalled on a field of war, destined to receive the final sword of the rebellion.

There was another in the Southwest who heard one of the echoes of the shot, and who afterward marched from Atlanta to the sea; and another, far away by the Pacific, who also heard one of the echoes, and who became one of the immortal three.

But, above all, the echoes were heard by millions of men and women in the fields of unpaid toil, and they knew not the meaning, but felt that they had heard a prophecy of freedom. And the echoes told of death and glory for many thousands—of the agonies of women—the cries of orphans—the sighs of the imprisoned and the glad shouts of the delivered, the enfranchised, the redeemed.

They who fired that gun did not dream that they were giving liberty to millions of people, including themselves; white as well as black, North as well as South, and that before the echoes should die away all the shackles would be broken, all the constitutions and statutes of slavery repealed, and all the compromises merged in and lost in a great compact made to preserve the liberties of all.

April 12, 1890. R. G. INGERSOLL.

WHAT SHE DID AND WHAT SHE DIDN'T.

She warbled the soprano with dramatic sensibility,
And dallied with the organ when the organist was sick;
She got up, for variety, a brand new church society,
And spoke with great facility about the new church brick.

She shed great tears of sorrow for the heathen in immorality,
And organized a system that would open up their eyes;
In culinary charity she won great popularity,
And showed her personality in lecturing on pies.

For real unvarnished culture she betrayed a great propensity;
Her Tuesday talks were famous, and her Friday glimmers great;
She grasped at electricity with mental elasticity
And lectured with intensity about the marriage state.

But with the calm assurance of her wonderful capacity,
She wouldn't wash the dishes, but she'd talk all day on rocks;
And while she dwelt on density, or space and its immensity,
With such refined audacity, her mother darned the socks!
—[Tom Masson, in Clothier and Furnisher.

SOCKLESS SIMPSON.

Mansfield *News*:—Jerry Simpson wears gold-rimmed spectacles and silk hose. Where now is Sockless Jerry?

Lima *Republican*:—About the only thing which the tariff advances in price is silk stockings. This may be a good pointer for Jerry Simpson, of Medicine Lodge.

Canton *Repository*:—Jerry Simpson, residing at a six-dollar-a-day hotel in New York, is apt to set his constituents to thinking. And when they do, this Simpson stock is bound to decline.

Fremont *News*:—Sockless Simpson says the Farmers' Alliance could carry ten states to-day. Perhaps the reason they don't do it is, that they can't find the ten that want to be carried that way.

THE WHITE HOUSE SILVER.

Various Pieces Purchased Since Washington's Time.

Mrs. Harrison is the only President's wife, says a Washington correspondent, who has made an inventory of the furniture of the White House. She believes that all of its fine old articles have an historic value and that they should be preserved. Since the White House was opened by Mrs. John Adams more than $500,000 has been spent for furniture, but the amount of personal property now in the White House would not bring $50,000 at auction.

A great deal of the table silver has disappeared, but there is still some which finds a place of honor at the state dinners.

One of the most beautiful parts of the whole collection is the solid silver service which was bought by President Monroe. The shapes of these articles are curious. There are two soup tureens with covers, and these tureens are affixed to large, oval-shaped, flat bottomed stands, which spread out beneath them like trays. There are silver cake baskets, silver gravy boats, and solid silver coffee and tea urns and fine cut glass claret jugs with silver tops.

One of the most curious pieces of the White House silver service is the silver Hiawatha boat, which was bought at the Centennial Exposition in 1876. This is used at most of the state dinners, and is always filled with flowers.

There are also the gold spoons and forks which were bought by President Van Buren, and which formed a campaign issue when President Harrison's grandfather ran against Mr. Van Buren and defeated him.

The glass of the White House is very fine, and a great deal of it is required for the wines which are used at state dinners.

A great deal of the glass was manufactured in this country. A New York firm made 50 dozen pieces at one time a few years ago. These were ordered early during Mr. Cleveland's term. Some of the articles have an American eagle cut upon them.

A LITERARY CURIOSITY.

A lady occupied a whole year in searching for and fitting the following lines from English and American poets. The whole reads almost as if written at one time and by one author:

Why all this toil for triumphs of an hour?
—[Young.

Life's a short summer—man is but a flower;
—[Dr. Johnson.

By turns we catch the fatal breath and die—
—[Pope.

The cradle and the tomb, alas! so nigh.
—[Prior.

To be is better far than not to be.
—[Sewell.

Though all man's life may seem a tragedy;
—[Spencer.

But light cares speak when mighty griefs are dumb—
—[Daniel.

The bottom is but shallow whence they come.
—[Sir Walter Raleigh.

Your fate is but the common fate of all:
—[Longfellow.

Unmingled joys here to no man befall;
—[Southwell.

Nature to each allots his proper sphere.
—[Congreve.

Fortune makes folly her peculiar care;
—[Churchill.

Custom does often reason over rule,
—[Rochester.

And throw a cruel sunshine on a fool.
—[Armstrong

Live well—how long or short permit to heaven,
—[Milton.

They who forgive most shall be most forgiven.
—[Bailey.

Sin may be clasped so close we can not see its face:
—[French.

Vile intercourse where virtue has no place.
—[Somerville.

Then keep each passion down, however dear,
—[Thompson.

Thou pendulum betwixt a smile and a tear;
—[Byron.

Her sensual snares let faithless Pleasure lay,
—[Smollett.

With craft and skill to ruin and betray.
—[Crabbe.

Soar not too high to fall, but stoop to rise;
—[Massinger.

We masters grow of all that we despise.
—[Crowley.

Oh, then, renounce that impious self-esteem.
—[Beattie.

Riches have wings, and grandeur is a dream.
—[Cowper.

Think not ambition wise because 'tis brave—
—[Sir Walter Davenant.

The path of glory leads but to the grave.
—[Gray.

What is ambition? 'Tis a glorious cheat.
—[Willis.

Only destructive to the brave and great.
—[Addison.

What's all the gaudy glitter of a crown?
—[Dryden.

The way to bliss lies not on beds of down.
—[F. Quarles.

How long we live, not years but actions tell.
—[Watkins.

That man lives twice who lives the first life well.
—[Herrick.

Make, then, while yet we may, your God your friend,
—[Mason.

Whom Christians worship, yet not comprehend.
—[Hill.

The trust that's given guard, and to yourself be just,
—[Dana.

For live how'er we may, yet die we must.
—[Shakespeare.
—[Good Housekeeping.

FIRING A REVOLVER.

To Attain Rapidity and Accuracy Do Not Aim Along the Sights.

Capt. J. Forman, Thirteenth infantry says in the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat*:

"It is a peculiar fact that very few men, even accomplished shots, know how a revolver ought to be handled. Nearly all are taught to aim a revolver as if it were a rifle; that is, by bringing the object aimed at and the fore and hind sights into line. This is all well enough for shooting gallery practice, but should never be followed in the field. In training troops to use the revolver they are taught, in aiming, never to look at the weapon at all, but to keep their eyes on the object to be struck. In quick firing, and especially in shooting from horseback, much better results are obtainable in this way. A man throwing a stone does not look at his hand; neither does a brilliard player sight along his cue. The same rules apply to the use of short weapons. I have seen men trained to shoot excellently at a mark when they could not see their pistol sights at all. Pieces of pasteboard were fastened just in front of the cylinders, which effectually prevented the men from using their foresights, and greatly increased the rapidity, as well as the accuracy, of their fire. Nearly any one can sight a pistol correctly, the inaccuracy of the aim being due to trembling of the hands before the trigger is pressed. By hiding the sight the temptation to hold too long is removed, and the first aim, generally the most accurate, is preserved."

QUATRAINS.

POETRY.

O art of arts, O gift of gifts,
Sublimest of sublime!
To string the beaded thoughts into
A rosary of rhyme.

IN AUTUMN.

The shepherd winds are driving,
Along the ways on high,
A merry flock of cloudland sheep
To meadows in the sky.

THE DAWN.

Upon his tranquil, joyous face,
Sorrow hath left no dark'ning trace,
And yet we know the blessed light,
Followed a struggle in the night.

FAME.

The Poet's soul is pledged to bliss
In marriage vow,
When Fame bends low to press a kiss
Upon his brow.
[Robert Loveman in New Orleans Picayune.

MR. EDMUNDS' SUCCESSOR.

Omaha *World-Herald*:—Now that Senator Edmunds has resigned, there is a chance for Secretary Proctor's senatorial bee to buzz.

St. Louis *Globe-Democrat*:—The senatorship is too big an office for Secretary Proctor, but Vermont has no surplus of good men apparently at this time.

Boston *Traveller*:—Edmunds' retirement from the Senate leaves a notable vacancy in that body, and imposes a most important and delicate duty upon Governor Page in naming his successor.

Albany *Times*:—Vermont is not a very populous state, but already plenty of candidates for Senator Edmunds' place have put in an appearance. Secretary of War Proctor appears so far to have the inside track.

A COMBINATION POEM.

[To be used at morning or evening as desired.]

Red grows the { west / east } in the { evening's / morning's } first gleaming,

Strange forms clouds take at the { pass'ng / coming } of day.

The mists of the { twilight / mornin' } from { eastw'd / westw'd } are streaming,

Wrapping the earth in their mantle of gray.

Ho! the mantle is { falling / lifting }, it hangs now suspended,

A cloud shutting out the { red / blue } sky from the earth.

The reign of { bright day / dark night } for a season is ended,

Forgotten, unwept, ere the { night / day } springs to birth.
—[New York Herald.

Four-Leaved Clover.

This plant derived its significance from the fact that its four leaves are arranged in the form of a cross. Moreover, its comparative rarity and its very abnormality (if I may so express it) made it seem noteworty or remarkable. If a person shall wear a bit of this plant he can detect the presence of evil spirits. It also brings a good fortune.

With a four-leaved clover, a double-leaved ash, and a green-topped screw (rush),
You may go before the queen's daughter without asking her leave.

A two-leaved clover enables a maid to see her future lover. The four-leaved grass (true-love, one-berry, herb paris, or leopard's bane) is another mystical cross-leaved plant concerning which much might be said. The quaint St. Andrew's cross (*Asarum cruz-Andrea*) is a very interesting plant of our own country, with cross-like flowers. Strangely enough, it appears to have no folklore attached to it.—[American Notes and Queries.

Good for All Parts of the House.

A piece of soft flannel makes the best of dusters.

It saves time and leather to have a broom, brush and dustpan for every floor in the home.

Equal parts of sweet oil and vinegar and a little powdered gum arabic make an excellent furniture polish.

In roasting meat turn with a spoon, instead of a fork, as the latter pierces the meat and lets the juice out.

"the unseen powers," and by and by we find the whole in what seems an inextricable tangle. They are the threads of devotion to self and selfish ends that we spin and spin, thinking that the result is all in our own hands. Later, we find that while we were so busily at work, other influences were at work too, and the pattern employed is "not as ours." Yet, as I said before, looked upon, we shall find, beyond doubt, it was what was needed to make the plan of our lives approach nearer perfection.

EMILY S. BOUTON.

Parsley Beds.

ONE of the most convenient things which any one can have who has backyard room is a parsley bed. For a few cents enough seeds can be bought to supply several families. Get the double-curled leaf variety, as it is more ornamental. It should be sown very early, as it is a long time in growing.

Parsley is much liked in different kinds of dishes. Chopped very fine and put into an omelet it gives a spicy taste that most people like exceedingly. It is also excellent in soup, and made into a dressing for steak in this way: Cream some butter, mix in some finely chopped parsley and a few drops of lemon juice, and it is delicious.

Aside, however, from its forming a fine ingredient in cooking, it is a beautiful decoration for the table. Placed around the edge of the platter upon which is meat or fish, it gives a brightness to the the whole table, a dainty appearance that adds greatly to the pleasure of a good meal. It takes very little trouble to have an effective decoration of this kind.

Parsley will resist the frost much longer than most vegetables. When it gets late in the season take up some of the roots and set them into a box to grow for winter use. A south window is the best. A great deal of care is not needed, but the soil should be kept loosened around the roots, and properly moistened.

Fancy Work and House Decoration.

PHOTOGRAPH FRAMES.—A new way of making these necessary articles has proven very popular. This is to cover them with fine white linen. Cut out two pieces of pasteboard of the same size and shape. In the center of one make an opening large enough to show the picture. Cover both first with a layer of cotton, and then with white muslin sewed on firmly. Cut out fine linen coverings and embroider them in colors. Small flowers scattered over the surface are exceedingly pretty. The support is to be covered in the same way but left plain white. Where the support is overhanded to the other part a bow of ribbon is placed, the coloring matching the flowers. These covers when soiled may be taken off and washed, then put back again.

NEWSPAPER RACK.—Get one of the common wire gridirons that can be bought for a song. Have different shades of either pink or blue ribbon, No. 9, to weave in and out upon the sides. Across one side put folds of moss green silk, and edge it with braid or cord as represented

in illustration. Twist ribbon around the handles, and at the places shown put bunches of pompons in the shades of ribbon and silk. This pretty rack is described in *Arthur's Home Magazine.*

HANDY HOLDER.—The following is useful as well as ornamental to hang in the bed room: Take a broom handle and knit a cover to slip over it. Now make four tassels out of your yarn, and fasten one to each end of the broom and ends of cord, which look better to be hung as long as your room will allow. This is nice to throw pillow shams on or aprons. The prettiest whisk broom-holder I ever saw was made out of tissue paper of two colors cut in half inch strips, crossing each other in diamond shape.—CORRESPONDENT.

Knitting and Crocheting.

Knitting Abbreviations—k, knit; p, purl or seam; p 2 tog., purl two together; n, narrow; s and b, slip and bind; tto, throw thread over; b, bind; o, over; sl, slip; m, make.

Crocheting Abbreviations—d. loop; s c, single crochet; d c, double crochet; ch st, chain stitch; cl ch st, close chain stitch; d ch st, double chain stiten; p, picot; r c, ribbed crochet; c f st, crossed treble stitch; sn st, shell stitch; o sh st, open shell stiten; tr. treble; sh c, short crochet.

THAT LACE.—If M. E. Phoenix will follow directions minutely, she will find the knitted lace given in the HOUSEHOLD of March 7 quite correct. I have over 1 yard knitted from the same directions, and think it very pretty. In the 1st row you make 4 stitches (o 4 times); in the 2d row knit 5 and purl 4, then k 1—p 1—k 1—p 1. You now have nine stitches on your needle, and 15 stitches on the left hand needle; knit these. You will find that you have now 24 stitches. I hope the sister will try again and report success.—ALICE J. AHRENS.

A PRETTY AFGHAN.—This is worked in three colors, black, scarlet and green, in strips in the ordinary afghan or crochet tricotee stitch in double zephyr wool, although good Germantown looks nearly as well, and is quite heavy enough.

Take of Germantown worsted, 8 oz. scarlet, 8 oz. green and 22 oz. black, with about an ounce of shaded crimson, and a long No. 6 or No. 8 crochet hook. Make a chain of 40 with the scarlet, and work a plain strip in the afghan stitch till half the wool is used. Then make another chain of 40, and make another strip of exactly the same size with the other half of the wool. Make also two strips of the same size in both green and black. This gives six strips in all. Now for the middle strip of the couvrette, make a chain of 80, in black, and work this wide strip till it is as long as the others. When this is finished take the shaded crimson and join a green strip on each side of it with a row of d c's; that is, put the hook through an edge stitch of the strips, draw the wool through both, catch it again and draw through the two loops on the hook. This makes, when completed, a little raised ridge of shaded crimson between the two strips. Next join in the same way a narrow black strip to each green one, and finally a crimson strip to each black. Work also along the outer edge of each of the scarlet strips a row of d c's with the crimson. A fringe in black along the ends of the strips on the two opposite sides complete the plain afghan. This fringe may consist of a double thickness of wool knotted into each stitch, with two threads of the first afterward knotted with two of the third, two of the second with two of the fourth, the second two of the third stitch with the first two of the fifth stitch, and so on.

A handsome monogram may be worked in the center of the middle (black) strip in rich maroon, with a cluster of flowers added above and below the monogram, worked in the cross stitch so familiar in old "samplers." Bunches of flowers may be crewelled on the other black strips, but the crimson and green ones are left quite plain.

Correspondence.

THE KING'S DAUGHTERS.—The question is frequently asked by BLADE correspondents, "What do the King's Daughters do, and what can we do if we form a circle?" Perhaps an extract from the annual report of the order in Toledo, may help some one to answer these questions. At the commencement of the year, May, 1890, there were reported 49 circles with a membership of 592; these were distributed among five churches. Now, near the close of the year, we have 66 circles, and 686 members, representing 14 churches. Besides these, we have 21 "members at large," whose duties prevent them from belonging to any circle, but who do good service in His name, whenever they have an opportunity. During the year very much work has been done by the different circles, more than can be mentioned in such a report as this. Families have been constantly cared for through the years, or until they were able to do for themselves; fuel, food, clothing, fruit, flowers, medicine, ice and money for house rent, everything that was needed for the sick or needy has been given, and with every gift the King's Daughters have offered sympathy and love that has doubled its value.

One circle that commenced in a very modest way, by caring for a few homeless newsboys, giving the shelter and care of a home and a chance to make of themselves something better than street Arabs, has found its work to have grown beyond its expectations, and in order to keep up with the demands made upon it, and for the better furtherance of its objects, has become an incorporated institution of the state, but the work will still be under the wise and loving care of the King's Daughters. Another circle, besides doing much other work, furnished 300 tickets for "fresh air" excursions, and the good results of this effort can never be estimated. This circle, and others, propose to continue this on a larger scale next season. A rolling chair for a helpless invalid at the hospital was secured through the effort of a circle of young ladies of Westminster church. Boxes of clothing and supplies have been sent away by several circles, the aggregate value of which is $350. Other boxes have been sent, of whose value no report has been made. One hundred and twenty-seven dollars in money is reported as spent in the city charity work of a few circles, and it is impossible to estimate the value of the clothing, (one circle alone having made and given 50 garments), groceries, Christmas gifts, etc., that have been given during the winter. Twenty families were supplied with their Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners, and several circles each supplied Sunday dinner to a family, each week. As so many of the circles have not furnished a report of their work, this is a very incomplete summary of what has been done by the order in Toledo, but sufficient to show that they have been about the Masters work. They have visited the hospitals, orphan's home, retreat, infirmary, old ladies' home and the jail, wherever there has been sickness or sorrow, or sin that could be helped, they have gone with comfort for the physical needs, and sympathy for the spiritual. In doing this they have received the blessing that comes to all who give even a cup of cold water in His name, and it has aroused in many an interest in life and a desire to help others that they would not otherwise have felt. Especially do we see the effect of the work of the King's Daughters in the children. They show in their lives, the lessons of self-denial, patience, courtesy and kindness toward others they have been taught by their circle leaders to practice. They also are learning the lesson of equality, before God, of the rich and the poor, and this lesson will be of infinite value to them in their endeavors to lead a Christian life.

In June, a city branch of the work was organized, the object of which was to bring into closer sympathy the workers in the different denominations, believing that in union is strength. The results of the union meetings of this branch have been very satisfactory. We have each gained by the experience of others, and a more cordial feeling between members of different churches has followed. It has been proven beyond doubt, that the Episcopalians are not "stiff," nor the Baptists "close-communion," nor the Presbyterians "blue," where the work of the King's Daughters is concerned, but that we can meet on this common ground, each doing her duty according to her conscience, but in love, courtesy and forbearance toward others.—SOPHIE F. WALDRON.

Correspondence Clippings.

I believe if a young man lives a pure life, and endeavors to cultivate his finer and better feelings, it will be for his highest and fullest happiness on earth to marry. I am interested in the young men of this country, and feel anxious to help them all I can. I think, perhaps they might improve some in their manner of proposing, therefore I have studied up a formula which they will do well to contemplate.

Do you think we could tread life's measure
together
Keeping in tune and step with each other?
Do you suppose we understand the make of
each other,
And each can bring out the best in the
other?
Do you believe that our natures are in
harmony strung
That no discords will e're creep in
Or clamorings leap in?

Do you think we could sing well life's song
together
In all of its phases of weeping and laughter,
Brightness and sadness, misery and gladness?
Bringing out harmonies softer and finer
To bring us of heaven a gentle reminder,
As time passes on?

If we were asked in ten years "Is marriage a
failure??
And all the old maids and old bach's assailed
her,
Do you suppose dear, we'd be able to bail
her,
And in word and deed never fail her?
Or would our love prove all a delusion?
Please help me in these things to reach a conclusion.

MATTIE CORYP.

In a recent issue of your valuable paper Gerome Bassett wants to know whether it is proper for him to wear felt boots or not. (His wife and brother think not). Why bless your soul brother Bassett, if you find them as comfortable as I do mine, wear them by all means. The idea that it is disrespectful to wear said felts, is simply absurd; ninety-nine one-hundredths of the men in Minnesota that have out of door work either wear them, or the "German socks," and I think we Minnesotans are generally considered as respectable as other citizens of our Republic.

Also in the "Farmstead" I noticed that "Verdant" (a very appropriate name), a "practical poultry raiser," wanted to know among other things, whether it took three days or three weeks for hens eggs to batch. Why will you ask such questions?—BUCKWHEAT.

Inquiries.

Can any one tell me of anything that will reduce the superabundance of hair, i. e., cause it to fall out? I have such a great quantity of hair, and as my health is very poor, I suffer so much from headache, I should feel thankful to be relieved of fully one-half of it. I have tried thinning it out, but it grows in thicker than ever. It is very long, and I do not want to have it cut.—HALLIE.

Mrs. H. asks if I would give the HOUSEHOLD instructions in "cutting and fitting dresses. I would like to ask the HOUSEHOLD how many of them feel they would be benefited by eight or ten short, plain and practical "talks" on dress cutting, basting and fitting? I would like time thus spent to be profitable to more than one or two.—LU H. WAGNER.

Doubtless such "Talks" would be appreciated by a great number of the HOUSEHOLD.—ED.

We have pledged ourselves to put a window in our new church. Will some one of the HOUSEHOLD tell us how to make money? Would like to know soon. —A KING'S DAUGHTER.

Can you tell me where I can get a work on taxidermy, and how much it will cost?—BERNICE E. L.

Two manuals upon "Taxidermy" are Brown's and Manton's. "Field Ornithology," by E. Cones, is another. The price of either should not be more than a dollar, and we presume you could get one in paper for 50 cents.—ED.

Will some one send a recipe for making graham bread?—NEBRASKA WILD ROSE.

Miss Jessie M. H.: A nice fan would be a very acceptable present for a young lady graduate. If you desire to give her something different, a book, or an engraving, or a piece of jewelry, whichever would best suit her taste.—ED.

Will our editor give us an article on hygienic living and tell us why whole wheat flour and similar food will give us clear, beautiful complexions, make the hair grow abundantly and glossy, put the teeth in better condition and build up the whole physical structure?—ONE WHO IS INTERESTED IN YOU.

The editor wrote a series of articles upon the above subject a few years ago, which were afterward embodied in the book, "Health and Beauty," and sold by the Locke Publishing Co., Toledo, O., for $1.—ED.

Will some one tell how to make pop corn balls, or bricks?—A READER.

Will some one send me instructions for painting a peafowl, and what kind of paint to use?—MATTIE WOLFORD.

Can some one tell me where to find the poem beginning:

"Do you know you have asked for the cost-
liest thing
Ever made by the hand above—
A woman's heart, and a woman's life,
A woman's wonderful love?"

HENRIETTA.

Answers to Inquiries.

Kittie S.: Oatmeal bowls are very low, and of graceful shapes, with a small plate and an individual cream jug to complete the set. They could be used for bread and milk, although a larger bowl and pitcher is generally preferred for that. Bouillon cups are made with two handles and either with or without covers. These are also convenient for use in serving broth, &c., in a sick room. —ED.

Mrs. A. G. G.: Make your twelve-year-old daughter's school dresses of gingham, with a simple, straight, full skirt finished with a hem; and either a belted, yoke waist, or a plain waist cut low in the neck to wear with a guimpe, as may be most becoming. The last mentioned fashion gives more variety and freshness to the toilet, and for that reason is generally preferred by school girls.—ED.

Miss M. I. Taylor.: We have not, at present, the address you wish for, but should it again be sent to THE HOUSEHOLD, we will forward your letter. We do not preserve the addresses of correspondents and, therefore, are not able to respond to the many requests made for them. When it is possible, we are glad to accommodate members of the HOUSEHOLD in any way, but cannot undertake to do this, as it would require the whole time of one person.—ED.

To several who have written on the subject, we reply that THE BLADE has no "exchange column."—ED.

Francis M.: The following varnish will maintain its transparency, and the metallic brilliancy of the articles will not be obscured: Dissolve ten parts of clean gum of mastic, five parts of camphor, five parts of sandarach, and five parts of elemi in a sufficient quantity of alcohol, and apply without heat.

Tell Mrs. Chas. Freeman that Nathaniel Bailey's dictionary was published in 1720; and is the word "honorificabilitudinity" to be found in it?—MRS. A. S. RICHARDSON.

"Cousin Gertrude": For grafting wax take in this proportion: ½ lb. rosin, ¼ lb. beeswax; ½ pt. raw linseed oil. Put ¾ of each kind together in a suitable dish to melt; stir constantly until all is melted to avoid burning. Pour a little out in cold water, rub the fingers as often as necessary with a lump of cold tallow, take the mixture from the water in temperature of about 60°, work and pull the lump as you would candy. You will then see if any of the reserve will be needed to harden or to soften the wax. When it is right it will work as clear as crystal. Raw linseed oil is the best of any kind of grease to make it clear and pliable. Boiled oil is not as good; it contains red lead, mangone litherage, etc. This kind of salve has been used in our families for 100 years, used for grafting, and we have never yet found anything better for boils, bruises, cuts, burns, etc. —F. J. WOLCOTT.

I wish to tell the ladies how I rid my flowers of worms. After trying every remedy given in the HOUSEHOLD without any benefit, I first soaked the soil thoroughly, then, while still wet, I covered it with slaked lime. After a few days I again watered them, and since that I have been unable to find a single worm and my flowers have taken on new growth and are full of buds.—BIRDIE.

Tell Mary S. that alcohol can be substituted for brandy, in any recipe, as there is nothing else left, after it has been subjected to heat sufficient to bake a pie or cake. Also that "buttered paper" in recipes means plain paper, either white or brown, that has been heavily greased and placed in the baking tin before the cake mixture is poured in.—AUNT SUE.

Recipes.

French chalk will remove grease spots from the most delicate fabric or colors without injury to the goods. Scrape a little of the chalk over the soiled place and hang away. When ready to use the garment brush out the chalk and it is all right. I never use that which is pulverized.—A READER.

GREEN PEA SOUP.—1 pt. green shelled peas; boil until tender; or if canned peas are used, 1 can. When done, rub through a sieve. Have ready 1 qt. of boiling milk, seasoned with a teaspoonful of butter; a little salt and pepper. Put in the peas, and let them boil up; then take two slices of bread cut into squares and fry brown in butter, add to the soup and serve.

ESCALLOPED EGGS.—Break as many eggs as you wish in a deep plate, carefully adds bits of butter, salt and pepper, and 1 tablespoonful of milk to each egg. Bake five minutes.

ESCALLOPED TOMATOES.—Peal as many as you wish with a very sharp knife, and take out part of the core. Set all in a deep plate, fill up the core part with bits of butter, salt, pepper and bread crumbs. Bake three-quarters of an hour, with just a little water at first.—MATTIE E.

JAVAL WATER.—1 lb. chloride of lime, dissolved in hot water; 1 lb. sal-soda, dissolved; then mix the solutions and settle. When needed, use a small portion, dip the stained place in it, and let lay in the sun for a few minutes—not over ten; rinse thoroughly. It will remove almost any stain.—MARY L. WICKHAM.

Shall be glad of the other recipes.—ED.

A Novel Iceboat

A couple of Norwegian engineers have invented an iceboat that is constructed upon a different plan from those ordinarily in use. The ice is not broken by ramming, as at present, but it is sawn through by circular saws that are placed below the ice. Another apparatus thrusts the ice thus cut from the channel, so that it will no longer obstruct the passage or endanger the safety of vessels.

Office of Shultz Belting Co.
PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 6th, 1889.

DR. A. T. SHALLENBERGER.

Rochester, Pa. *Dear Sir:*—The Antidote came duly to hand. It is without doubt the best remedy in the world. I have seen my whole family (exclusive of myself), five in number, all shaking at one time, during a residence in Florida, and all restored to health after taking a few doses of the medicine.

Sincerely yours,
G. A. JENNINGS.

ABOUT SOME WRITERS

CHAT WITH THE HOUSEHOLD.

Helen H. Gardener—A Brilliant Author—Homes of the Poets—A Beautiful Book—An English Writer.

The personality of an author who has won a wide reputation by long continued and excellent work, or by some sudden and brilliant stroke of genius, always becomes of interest to the great world of readers. They want to know just how this wonderful woman—if it be a woman—carries herself; what is the color of her hair, her eyes; who were her father and mother, her grand parents, and where is her home—in short, every minutest bit of information is greedily gathered in order to bring up a complete picture before her readers of the person who has so won their admiration.

This is true of the writer, Helen H Gardener, of that much-talked-of book, "Is This Your Son, My Lord?" and all sorts of paragraphs have been going the rounds of the papers regarding her, of which the following is a specimen:

Mrs. Helen Gardener, author of the novel "Is This Your Son, My Lord?" is about 30 years old, and is described as a really beautiful woman, a little above medium height, of well rounded proportions, with an intellectual face, deep brown eyes, full red lips and high, broad forehead. She is a daughter of Julia Ward Howe, and possesses radical views.

This appeared in *Current Literature*, and it being naturally supposed that that excellent magazine must be correct, it has been widely copied.

Helen H. Gardener is not, however, a daughter of Julia Ward Howe, nor is she even of New England origin. Her ancestors have always lived in Maryland or Virginia, and she, herself, first saw light in the latter state, near Winchester. She traces her family directly from the daughter of Lord Baltimore, Miss Calvert, who married a Mr. Chenoweth, he being the first sheriff of Baltimore county, Maryland. Her own father was Rev. A. G. Chenoweth; her mother a grand niece of Sir Robert Peel, so that it is evident that she has back of her the culture of generations.

Another fact which may also be of interest to her readers is that her grandmother was a sister of the mother of Richard Malcolm Johnston, another Southern writer, who has become very popular through his stories of Southern life. Mrs. Johnston was one of the "cousins" who figured in the quaint and delightful sketches written by General Strother, under the sobriquet of "Porte Crayon," which years ago ran for months in *Harper's Magazine*, greatly to the entertainment of its readers. General Strother, by the way, is also a cousin of Helen Gardener.

The personal description given in the paragraph quoted is, I think, very nearly correct. Her face is full of intelligence, and the earnestness that is visible in all that she writes, looks forth from her dark eyes.

One of the most beautiful and heartsome little books I have ever seen is one entitled "Infoldings and Outfoldings of the Divine Genius in Nature and Man," a copy of which was sent me by the author, Rev. John Pulsford, of Hampstead, England. It reminds one in its spirit of "The Greatest Thing in the World," which has gone to the hearts of so many thousands and lifted them out of discontent and selfishness. Mr. Pulsford clothes his thoughts, which are truly the outbreathings of a spirit attuned to the Infinite Good, in words of glowing eloquence, strong, expressive, inspiring. They arouse one to the beauty of living and the real glory of what we call death, but which is but into a more glorious life. The following is but one of the many beautiful ways in which he speaks of the Infinite Love:

"In the substantial, unchangeable, endless glory of our Father's love, we have substantial, unhesitating unchangeable comforts. The right is ours to go forth from all shadows into His glory. Nothing can change, or finally becloud, the purpose of his Fatherly love.

"What the veil of the material creation hides, and what our own material experience seems to belie, that Christ reveals. By His determination, as Throne-man of our race, to lead the divine element of our Father's life and glory into our nature, He has forced out all of its corruptible elements and thus abolished death.

"This revelation of our Father's purpose towards us, in Christ Jesus, should clear our mental sky, wonderfully help us in our struggle against depravity, make death a mere semblance, and fill us with surprising joy."

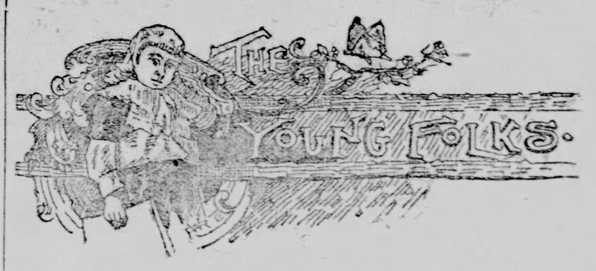
This little work is published by Hamilton, Adams & Co., London, Eng. I have received also from the same writer another and larger work, of which I shall speak hereafter.

I READ with great interest some time ago a description of the homes of the four great American poets: Whittier, Lowell, Holmes and Walt Whitman. The first has a plain, unpretentious, two story New England farm house, furnished without any regard to style, horsehair covered chairs, sofas, etc., those horrors of esthetic taste in the modern home. The poet's own especial study is plainer still, having only a stove that belongs among the antiquities, a book-case and desk. Walt Whitman is as careless of his surroundings as is Whittier, living in a little story-and-a-half house, in Camden, furnished without regard to beauty or to luxury. He seems utterly oblivious to his surroundings.

Both Lowell and Holmes live in an entirely different manner. They like the things of the world, and surround, and are only content with elegant surroundings. They have fine libraries, beautiful pictures, and all of those evidences of luxury and refinement that wealth can furnish. They are both residents of Cambridge, where may be found other men of letters, as Thomas Wentworth Higginson and Charles Elliot Norton.

An unpretentious old house in the old-fashioned town of South Berwick, Maine, is the summer house of Sarah Orne Jewett, who spends her winters in Boston. She was born in the old Berwick house, and it is very dear to her. The furnishings are not elegant, but refined and comfortable, and there are flowers everywhere, within and without, during the season that finds her there. Here she does her best work, and here she best loves to be.

It is said that the English novelist Farjeon, the one who is the husband of Joe Jefferson's daughter, is soon to visit America. He married his wife in London, it will be remembered, in 1878, having fallen in love with her and she with him, during an engagement of her father's in that city. He is described as a small man, with a round face and side whiskers, full of life and merriment, and fond of company. Years ago, when a young man, it was thought that he bade fair to walk in the footsteps of Charles Dickens, but though he has failed in doing that, he is still a most charming story writer, and his work is always in good demand at high prices. Some of his serials have been published simultaneously in English, French, German, Spanish and Italian.



For the Young Folks.

What the Bird Sings.

BY BERTHA BECKLY MATHER.

There's a little brown bird lives over the
way,
We hear him singing day after day;
To each of us a message he brings,
As he so busily sways and swings;
As he chirps so cheerily all the long day,
Perhaps to some he'd seem only to say—
"To whit! To whit!"

To papa, who sometimes is quite perplexed
And with the cares of business vexed—
In the quiet hush of the westering light
When woods and fields with flowers are
bright;
Through dulsies and violets and budding
trees
There comes this note on the evening
breeze—
"Forget! Forget!"

To mamma, who's busy the whole day
through,
Yet always finding something to do;
Who fears for her bairns the rough pathway
of life
So full of sorrow, of snares, of strife,
Who almost forgets "Not a sparrow falleth
Unknown"—'tis to her he calleth—
"Don't fret! Don't fret!"

To Johnnie, quick-tempered, good-hearted
boy,
Of home the torment, the pride, the joy;
As charming and fickle as April weather,
At times he laughs and cries together;
Was it whispered to birdie, I'm wondering,
The little warning he seems to sing?—
"Quiet! Quiet!"

To Ted, the baby, so precious and smiling,
With winning ways all hearts beguiling—
The dear little pet, so bright and cheery,
What cares he tho' the day be dreary?
Methinks to us all a lesson they're bringing,
The baby with smiles, the birdie singing—
"My pet! My pet!"

For the Young Folks.

MISS LAWRENCE'S VALENTINE.

BY K. A. K.

Continued from last Week.

The bell was ringing when May reached school and rushed into the cloak-room, breathless and excited. Miss Lawrence looked at her curiously. "Almost late, May," she said, half questioningly. "Almost," answered May pleasantly, but she did not stop to explain why.

There was some one else who looked inquiringly at May and wondered, half impatiently, what made her eyes so bright and her smile so sweet, and that some one was Flossie France.

The minutes that morning seemed to that little girl to take unto themselves the length of hours, and she thought the session would never end. Her courage was fast ebbing in spite of her determined efforts to make believe she didn't care, for now that her excitement was over, she realized that she had done a very mean and foolish thing—something that no lady would be guilty of. And she couldn't help but remember, now that it was too late to do any good, one thing and then another that stood strongly in Miss Lawrence's favor. There was the day when she couldn't see into those obtuse cube root examples, and Miss Lawrence had cheerfully staid a whole half hour at noon, to explain them to her, and had succeeded in making her understand them so well, that they never again gave her any trouble. And then, there was the time she was sick three weeks, right in the busiest part of the term, and Miss Lawrence had come to see her and brought her flowers and talked so cheerfully and encouragingly, and finally when she had got back to school, how good Miss Lawrence had been to her, and how she had helped her and kept her up with her class, when she otherwise would have been obliged to fall behind.

But then she had been very provoking for the last two weeks and given her miserable grades. It was only yesterday she had listened patiently to her absent-minded and somewhat rambling answer to a question in history, only, at its conclusion, to smile quietly and fixing her large dark eyes on the little girl's face, say, in a cutting, sarcastic tone, that only she knew how to use:

"Really, Flossie, you are giving us some interesting and decidedly original ideas on this subject. But I'm afraid your authority is questionable. Will the next lesson take the same topic?"

Flossie's cheeks burned yet at the mere remembrance.

"Yes," she said, decidedly, neglecting woefully the lesson before her, "she deserves it and I'm glad—," but her thoughts were put to tumult by the presence of a cool, soft hand on her throbbing temples. She started nervously, for she had heard no one come in. "Are you ill, Flossie?" asked Miss

ARE YOU ILL, FLOSSIE?

Lawrence kindly. "You are not looking as though you felt at all well to-day."

"Oh, it's only a headache," answered Flossie, flushing guiltily to the roots of her hair. Miss Lawrence said nothing further, but she knew something more than a headache was troubling the little girl, and she took pains to be especially lenient toward her the remainder of the morning.

"Oh, why has she been so good to me to-day?" though Flossie, half impatiently, as the signal for putting away of books was given. "It most seems as though she knew, and was trying to heap coals of fire on my head," and she gave a little suppressed sob as she passed in to the cloak room, and hurrying on her things, ran rapidly down the stairs without even waiting for her best friend, May Percy.

"What on earth is the matter with Flossie France, now?" asked Beth Newburg, gazing after her wonderingly.

"I answered Margie Southerland, giving a little tug at her rubber; "something or other, or her name wouldn't be Flossie France. Really May," she added half quizically, carefully combing out her fluffy bang, "you must take great comfort in being Flossie's chum. As for myself, I'd about as soon go with a whirlwind. You never can tell what she's going to do next. And such a little spitfire as she is when she gets mad—phew!" and Margie made up a face that set all the girls laughing.

May smiled good naturedly, for she knew Flossie's faults as well as any one. But she also knew what many others did not—the full depths of her friend's really loving heart, and her more than willingness to acknowledge and right all wrong that her hasty temper led her into.

A few mouthfuls of dinner was all Flossie wanted that noon, and she scarcely gave a glance at the score of mysterious looking packages and envelopes that were awaiting her. She emphatically told herself that she never wanted to hear the word valentine again, and that she would toss the whole lot into the fire were it not for the questions that would be asked.

"The child must be sick," said Mrs. France, noticing anxiously her little daughter's listless movements.

"Let her alone, sa'," said her husband, from behind his newspaper, "she'll come out all right. Half the people in this world are spoilt by coddling." And so Flossie was left alone much to her satisfaction.

"I've a great mind not to go to school this afternoon," she thought, pressing her aching head with both hot little hands. "But no, I won't be a coward," she added, giving herself a little shake. "I've done it, and now I'll face the consequences."

But she took good care to be just in time for the afternoon session, for she shrank from the very thought of meeting Miss Lawrence.

"Oh, if she could only have that miserable valentine back again!" she thought, for the hundredth time. And then she wondered what her teacher would do and what she would say. Would she be very angry, or would she pass it over without a word? Would she tell her mother? And Flossie gave a little nervous shiver. She had not thought of that before. She could almost see the pained, astonished look in her mother's clear gray eyes, and she knew how grieved she would be to learn that her little daughter whom she trusted so thoroughly, could do such a mean thing. But then, her mother would forgive her and love her again when she knew she was truly sorry, while Miss Lawrence—well, one thing was certain—she never wanted to look that lady in the face again.

It was with burning cheeks and a quickly beating heart that Flossie entered the school room and made her way to her desk. She hardly knew what to expect. After a few moments she ventured to steal a little glance at Miss Lawrence's face. It was quiet and undisturbed as if nothing unpleasant had happened, and—yes she was actually smiling at her. "Oh, she hasn't got it yet," was Flossie's first thought, and her heart gave a great leap of joy. All the afternoon she could not help feeling almost happy, though she knew only too well that the evil was but postponed.

The last twenty minutes in the afternoon of every fourth Friday, Miss Lawrence generally spent in reading the pupils' grades for the preceding school month, and in talking over the work to be taken up next. This she did as usual and then after congratulating the successful, reproving the laggards and speaking a word of encouragement to those who were making special efforts, she added in her clear, firm voice:

"And I think it but justice that I speak an explanatory word in regard to Flossie France's card. Many of you, no doubt, are commenting as to the lowness of the marks upon it. What I wish to say is this, that Flossie is one of my most persevering and faithful pupils, and that she has altogether too much respect for herself, to even think of such a thing as coming to a recitation with a lesson that is not perfectly prepared. But, strange as it may seem, she apparently thinks that a well prepared lesson and a well recited one, are two altogether different things. Upon this point I do not agree with her. And as talking, hitherto, has not seemed to have the desired effect, I have tried another plan. Flossie, I hope I shall be able to give you different marks next month."

Flossie's eyes were upon her desk, but she could feel the gaze of the other girls upon her. How foolish she had been to make such a fuss over what she really deserved—and in her heart she knew she did deserve it, for Flossie was a sensible little girl in spite of her quick temper. She lingered a moment after the others were dismissed, to put her desk in order, for it had been sadly neglected all day, and then, selecting a couple of books she started for the door, and upon its very threshold she met Miss Lawrence.

"Flossie," said that lady, laying her hand caressingly upon the little girl's bright head, "I received a very beautiful present this morning, in the shape of a valentine. Of course I'm not supposed to know the donor's name, but I wish you to know that I appreciate it greatly," and smiling kindly, she passed on to ask the assistant teacher. Not a word had Flossie spoken. She could not comprehend. What was it Miss Lawrence was saying? What did she mean? And then it all came over her like a flash. Out she rushed into the hall, straight to the spot, where, surrounded by a little group of girls, May Percy stood tying on her broad brimmed hat.

"Oh, May!" cried Flossie, unmindful of her wondering audience, and then, throwing her arms around her friend's neck, she burst into tears. "You did do it. I just know you did," she sobbed, "and there's no use of your denying it."

"Did you ever!" said Beth Newburg with a little shrug of her pretty shoulders, and Margie Southerland smiled contemptously.

"And you really and truly aren't angry?" asked May ten minutes later as, arm in arm, they started for home.

"Angry!" ejaculated Flossie, her face fairly beaming in spite of her red eyes, "I never was further from it."

"Such a time as I had!" went on May, with a bright little laugh. "I sacrificed fifteen minutes and four envelopes trying to get the shading just right and the proper turn to my small letters. And then, for fear she wouldn't recognize it as your writing, I put your initials in one corner. I was afraid I would be late, and I came pretty near it, too," she added reflectively. "But, after all, I never would have had courage to do it if it hadn't been for Hal; he deserves all the credit."

"Oh," said Flossie, giving her companion's hand an affectionate little squeeze, "you can say that, but you know it isn't so. At any rate, May Percy," she added energetically, "I've learned a lesson to-day that I shan't soon forget, and that is to be a little more careful about the scrapes I let my temper get me into."

Little Hal hardly knew what to make of all Flossie's kissing and caressing that night, but he bore it with a very good grace, especially as she insisted on dividing her valentines half and half, and giving him the prettiest.

It was, however, with charming composure and a quiet little smile, that May Percy received the elegant card St. Valentine brought her next morning.

As for Miss Lawrence, she never suspected the wonderful transformation her valentine—an exquisite bit of colors and lace—had undergone, or perhaps, she would not have regarded it with quite so much complacency.

THE END.

1.—WHAT ARE WE?

Much of our time is passed in the water, and we sometimes take long journeys overland in order to find it. The great length of our hind legs renders this an easy matter. Some of our family like to dwell in moist localities and in damp woods hiding under leaves and in the long grass. We are a carniverous animal, the smallest among us eating mollusks, insects and worms with the greatest voracity. We are found everywhere over the globe, though most abundantly in America. Our sense of smell is very imperfect. Our mouths are very widely cleft, and some of the larger among us have been known to swallow small animals and birds. As night approaches, we make ourselves heard, sometimes to the great annoyance of the human family. Of late years we have been used considerably for food.

2.—SQUARE WORD.

A Chaldean astronomical period or cycle, the exact length of which has been greatly disputed; without companions; a well known bird; a garden vegetable; dried leaflets of several species of cassia. S. B.

3.—CHARADE.

Come from my *first*—aye, come!
The battle dawn is nigh!

And the screaming trump, and the thunder-
ing drum,
Are calling thee to die!
Fight, as thy father fought!
Fall, as thy father fell!
Thy task is taught, thy shroud is wrought;
So forward!—and farewell!
Toll ye, my knell—toll!
Fling high the flambeau's light;
And sing the hymn of a parted soul,
Beneath the silent night!
The wreath upon his head,
The cross upon his breast—
Let the prayer be said, and the tear be shed,
So take him to his rest.

Call ye my whole—aye, call!
The lord of lute and lay;
And let him greet the sable pall
With a noble song to-day.
Go, call him by his name;
No fitter haud may grave
To light the flame of a soldier's fame
On the turf of a soldier's grave!

A. G. B.

4.—ENIGMA.

In hour not in day;
In you not in they;
In rats not in mice;
In water not in ice;
In story not in tale;
In wind not in gale;
In day not in night;
In clear not in bright;
In rail not in jog;
In cat not in dog;
In out not in in;
In lead not in tin;
In quiet not in still;
Not in house but in mill;
In noise not in creak;
Whole we look for every week.

M. E.

5.—CONUNDRUMS.

1. What animal is always answering a question?
2. Why is a cat with its tail in its mouth like a good manager?

AGNES.

6.—RIDDLE.

There is a thing in Amsterdam,
In Rome, it too, appears.
It's twice in every moment,
But not once in seven years.

B.

7.—ANAGRAMS.

1. Made in pint pots.
2. There we sat.
3. True, I am in.

A. P.

Answers to Last Week's Puzzles.

1. Parrot.
2. Invalid, bad, crop, alm, vain, land, need, blot, notion, tic.
3. August-a.
4. Jet—plane—plan.
5. Louis Van Beethoven.
6. 1.—Because it is from spring to fall. 2.—One patenes the rent and the other rents the patch.
7. Holy Bible.

The names of the winners of the prizes for best guessing of "Wonder Column" will be given next week.

Everybody Knows

That at this season the blood is filled with impurities, the accumulation of months of close confinement in poorly ventilated stores, workshops and tenements. All these impurities and every trace of scrofula, salt rheum, or other disease may be expelled by taking Hood's Sarsaparilla, the best blood purifier ever produced. It is the only medicine of which "100 doses one dollar" is true.

THE PRICE OF BEAUTY.

The price of Helen's beauty was a war
Which gave us Homer and the clank of
spears,
The Iliad and the clash of swords afar,
Still echoing down the long resounding
years!

For Cleopatra's beauty empires waned,
And men to slaughter born forgot to slay,
Nor thought her long, slow smile too dearly
gained
If for her sake they threw a world away!

For Mary's charms the thistle was uncrowned,
For Eugenie's fair face the Seine ran
blood,
Crowns, gold and faith and home have each
been found
The price of beauty since the primal flood.

Here in our modern day fair Lillian B.
Threw to the winds fast managerial rights,
And the spook princess, massive Miss De Bar,
For beauty's sake, like Lillian, gave up
tights!

Though beauty ty

News of the Week.

Under this head we aim to give a summary of all important events occurring within the week, in compact yet easily understood form, accompanied by such explanations as may be necessary to a perfect comprehension. We regard this as a feature of the greatest value to all our readers, and especially to the younger members of the family.

THE DEATH OF BARNUM.

The Great Showman Has Closed an Eventful Career.

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., April 9.—The great showman, P. T. Barnum, passed away at 6:22 o'clock p. m., on April 7, in the presence of his grief stricken family.

Mrs. Barnum bears up remarkably well under her burden of grief. She has received numerous telegrams of condolence from sympathizing friends in all parts of the globe. Mr. Barnum leaves an estate of over $5,000,000 which he disposes of by will largely to his legal heirs.

Business Suspended at Bridgeport, Conn., for Barnum's Obsequies.

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., April 10.—Universal sorrow prevailed throughout the city to-day, and everybody seems to be in deep mourning over the departed Phineas T. Barnum. Business is generally suspended, and every citizen is given an opportunity to pay his or her last respects to the departed.

The South Congregational church, which had been placed at the disposal of the family for the funeral ceremony, was crowded to suffocation, and thousands that were unable to gain admission had to content themselves with viewing the funeral cortage as it passed through the streets from the house to the church, and thence to the cemetery.

The remains of the great showman rested in a handsome solid red cedar casket of Corinthian style, covered with black English broadcloth. The trimmings were oxydized silver. On an oxydized silver plate was this inscription:

PHINEAS T. BARNUM,
Born July 5, 1810,
Died April 7, 1891.

The funeral services were simple, in accordance with the wish of the deceased A short service of prayer was held at Marina, conducted by Rev. L. B. Fisher, of the First Universalist church. This was strictly private only the members of the family being present. After this the funeral cortege proceeded to the church where the public services were held at 2 p. m.

At the grave thousands of sympathizing friends had gathered to witness the last sad rites. The handsome burial plot was beautifully adorned with flowers. Rev. I. B. Fisher officiated at the grave and read the committal services of the church, after which he offered the usual prayer and benediction. The immense crowd lingered long about the grave after the grief-stricken family had departed, casting a sorrowing glance at the grave of the departed.

BARNUM'S REAL LIFE.

Inside Facts of Which the Public Never Knew.

"Yes," said Mr. Charles Stowe to a reporter for THE BLADE, on April 11, "the changes in the tented field of amusement have been momentous, and their effects are likely to be far-reaching. It seems but a day since Adam Forepaugh stood for the last time at the door of his big tents, and now P. T. Barnum has followed him.

"As was said of Junius, to-day P. T. Barnum 'stands the shadow of a mighty name,' and in reality he never was but the unsubstantial shadow of what the public took him for. He was a magnificent poser, the great pretender in the moral farce, the Napoleon the Third of the arena, the monarch mountebank of all time, who adopted as his creed in life Shakespeare's advice: 'Assume a virtue if you have it not.' He amassed a great fortune by methods we need not discuss, and yet his life was largely a failure, and a bitter disappointment to himself, through the knowledge of himself, and few parents would care to hold him up as an example to their sons. He once said to Caleb Cushing: 'There is this difference between you and me—you are famous, while I am only notorious.' He might try to delude others, but he did not, or could not, deceive himself, unless persistence in misrepresentation finally bred, as it is said to often do, obliquity of mental vision.

"No man is a hero to his valet, and there was nothing heroic in Mr. Barnum to his intimate associates or employes. The relations between his partners and himself were never of an intimate or sincerely friendly nature. He made no concessions, and always exacted the utmost farthing. For his employes he had no consideration. Length, faithfulness or excellence of service brought neither recognition, increase of wages or provisions for old age. In so far at least as his circus associations were concerned, the policy was to find pretext to reduces compensation—never to increase it. He was a hard, unsympathetic taskmaster, and if he was a philanthropist he never tempered individual business relations therewith.

"He was the archetype of the shrewd, calculating, grasping Connecticut Yankee, enterprising without being liberal, a sharp, relentless bargainer, and one whose every undertaking centered in self. His motto was to get as much for nothing as possible, and in every gratuitous way to keep his name before the public. He had no scruple of resorting to every device and all methods of importuning to accomplish this, and his success was extraordinary. Accident frequently favored him, and persistency of purpose was ever vigilant to back it. As he grew older his itching for notoriety became a mania, and not infrequently led to most annoying and premature disclosures of his partner's projects.

"In audacity of exaggeration he was unrivaled, and seemed even to prefer it when the truth would have answered as well. Although a half interest in his 'greatest show on earth' was sold for from $125,000 to $150,000, he placidly announced its capital at $3,500,000 and his daily expenses were more than doubled in complacent type.

"At one time in his eventful career he seemed to find satisfaction in the title 'Prince of Humbugs,' but latterly it vexed and galled him. And yet, whether paying $5,000 for the banquet which British nobility and snobbery 'tendered' him in London, exhibiting a 'woolly horse,' or narrating his career, he earned the title, and, under the assertion that the public liked to be duped, intensified and defended it.

"Although practically he was a tyro in the circus business and could scarcely tell a rhinoceros from a tapir, his name was a tremendous magnet and drew out of all proportion to the merits of what it stood for. It remains to be seen how far it can survive the chill of the grave. Left with two big shows on his hands and each bearing a dead man's name, his surviving partner has no light task before him and the outcome will be watched with general interest by other managers."

DID HE MARRY THE DAUGHTER?

The Latest Story of Parnell's Social Affairs.

LONDON, April 8.—The lady to which Mr. Parnell is said to be privately married since the O'Shea divorce suit, is the eldest daughter of Mrs. O'Shea. The extreme privacy with which the ceremony was performed is attributed to the fact that the young lady is a ward in chancery. Although she is 21 years of age, the marriage could not be lawfully solemnized without the assent of the court, and by his action Mr. Parnell lays himself open to prosecution.

THE GRAND ARMY'S ORIGIN

A VERY IMPORTANT DOCUMENT

Presented to the Commander-in-Chief at the Silver Anniversary—A Grand Street Parade.

DECATUR, Ill., April 9.—It was the big day yesterday of the silver anniversary of the Grand Army of the Republic. Fifteen thousand veterans, members of the Women's Relief corps, Sons of Veterans and sight-seers, thronged the streets of Decatur and crowded the hotels. The parade took place in the afternoon. There were 2,500 veterans in line, including Gen. W. C. Veasey, commander-in-chief, and staff; Department Commander Diston and staff; Governor Fifer and staff; the surviving charter members of old post 1—Chaplain Lozier, John M. Snyder, John S. Phelps, and John A. Lightfoot, of Bloomington, the latter the first assistant adjutant general, aged 77. There were visiting comrades present from Missouri, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania and Ohio departments. At night there were two camp fires, one in a pavilion tent, where commander Diston, R. J. Oglesby, Gen. Veasey, Gen. Marden, Chaplain Lozier, Governor Fifer, and others delivered addresses. The Woman's

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF VEAZEY.

Relief Corps delegates had a camp fire in the opera house. Members of Gen. Stephenson's first staff prepared the following official letter on the origin of the Grand Army and presented it to Commander Veasey:

COMRADE W. C. VEASEY, commander-in-chief Grand Army of the Republic:

"SIR—The undersigned make the following statement of the origin of the Grand Army of the Republic: Dr. B. F. Stephenson was the originator of the idea. He made the first draft of the ritual. The ritual was re-written and perfected by Col. John M. Snyder, Capt. John S. Phelps and Maj. Robert Mann Woods in February, 1866. Capt. Phelps brought the manuscript to Decatur and had the ritual printed. Meanwhile Dr. Stephenson appointed the following staff: Gen. Webber, A. D. C.; Capt. John S. Pheips, A. D. C.; Col. John M. Snyder, Q. M. G.; Capt. John A. Lightfoot, assistant-adjutant general, and Maj. Robert M. Woods, adrutant-general.

"Next, Robert M. Wood wrote the declaration of principles, constitution, charter, etc., and had them printed at Springfield. Commander Stephenson sent the original constitution, ritual, etc., to Decatur for revision, where Capt. M. F. Kanan, George Danning, J. W. South and others revised them, and returned them to Springfield, where they were again revised by Commander Stephenson and staff, and made the permanent charter of the G. A. R.

"The name, Grand Army, was suggested by Dr. Stepenson himself, and the words, 'Of the Republic,' were added at the suggestion of Capt. M. F. Kanan.

"Post No. 1 was organized at Decatur with M. F. Kanan, commander, and George R. Steele, adjutant. They were granted the number 'one' because of their assistance in getting up the organization. Col. J. C. Webber and Capt. John S. Pheips organized the post in Illinois and Maj. R. M. Woods was detailed to organize the state department. The conference for arranging details of the organization was also attended by Lieut. Col. Prince, Lieut. Col. M. D. Flood, Col. George T. Allan, Maj. North, Dr. James Hamilton and Capt. E. E. Howe. Col. John M. Snyder organized the first post at Chicago, and organized the department of Minnesota, appointing General J. B. Lanborn, provisional commander; Maj. Robert M. Woods, orthe department of Ohio, appointing Gen. B. F. Potts provisional commander; department of Indiana, Col. Crawford, provisional commander; department of Wisconsin, Col. James K. Proudfit, provisional commander.

"In justice to the parties herein named, and that the true history shall be preserved in the National Memorial hall, we make the statement at this, our first meeting since 1866.

"Robert M. Woods, adjutant, Joliet, Ill.; John S. Phelps, A. D. C., Chicago; John M. Snyder, Q. M. G., Canton, Ill.; John A. Lightfoot, Springfield, Ill.; M. F. Kanan, post commander, No. 1, Decatur, Ill.

"The foregoing gives the details of the preparation of organizations and forever settles all dispute as to places and dates."

Gen. Veasey and staff left for Indianapolis this morning to attend the Indiana encampment.

THE ILLINOIS GRAND ARMY.

The State Encampment Follows the Silver Jubilee.

DECATUR, Ill., April 10.—The twenty-fifth encampment of the Illinois department of the Grand Army of the Republic opened yesterday with all the officers present. Commander Diston made his annual report. This being the silver anniversary of the organization of the first G. A. R. post, and Decatur being the birthplace of the order, a large part of the report was given up to a history of the Grand Army and what it has accomplished. Illinois as the senior department was recommended to push the matter of erecting the $300,000 memorial hall at Decatur. Mrs. Julia Sine, the first department president of the woman's relief corps, presented Commander Diston the magnificent silver gavel procured by the ladies as a silver anniversary present to the Grand Army.

A complimentary entertainment was given the delegates and visitors last night, at the opera house, and camp fires were held.

Indiana G. A. R.

INDIANAPOLIS, April 11.—The Grand Army of the Republic state encampment concluded yesterday. Col. I. N. Walker, of this city, was elected department commander, and Governor A. P. Fovey delegate for the state at large. The encampment adjourned to meet next year in Fort Wayne.

The Indiana state encampment G. A. R. by resolution, denounced the *Century* article on Camp Morton as "false and infamous, and a libel to the military honor and civil integrity of the state," and appointed a committee of fifty to procure and compile evidence of the falsity of the charges made in the *Century*.

Oregon's G. A. R.

ASTORIA, April 10.—At the state encampment of the G. A. R. yesterday, O. Summers, of Portland, was elected department commander.

WATER ON THE SAHARA.

El Golea Has Discovered an Enormous Reservoir of Pure Water.

PARIS, April 10.—A dispatch from Oran says that an enormous reservoir of water, 120 feet below the surface, has been discovered at El Golea, a small caravan station in the middle of the Sahara Desert. The reservoir was discovered while a number of workmen were engaged in sinking a well at El Golea. The shaft, sunk already gives forty gallons of good, clear water per minute, and it is expected that this amount can be readily increased should it be found that a larger quantity is necessary.

The discovery is of the highest importance and will undoubtedly tend to develop the caravan trade of El Golea, which is one of the stopping places in the Sahara Desert of caravans which travel across that region.

This is the first time that water has been found at so slight a depth in the Sahara.

Dutch Immigrants.

NEW YORK, April 10.—There were landed at the barge office this morning 900 steerage passengers, brought here from Rotterdam on the steamship Veendam. A number of the immigrants, whose examination proved unsatisfactory, were detained for further investigation.

THE NEWFOUNDLAND TREATY.

Text of the Convention as Agreed Upon When Canada Objected.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—Following is the text of the convention agreed upon between the United States and England at the time Canada interposed an objection, and prevented the signing of the document:

Article I. United States fishing vessels entering the waters of Newfoundland shall have the privilege of purchasing herring, caplin, squid and other bait fishes at all times, on the same terms and conditions, and subject to the same penalties in all respects as Newfoundland vessels.

They shall also have the privilege of touching and trading, selling fish and oil, and securing supplies in Newfoundland, conforming to the harbor regulations, but without other charge than the payment of such light harbor and custom dues as are or may be levied on Newfoundland fishing vessels.

Art. II. Dry cod fish, cod oil, seal oil, seal skins, herrings, salmon, trout and salmon trout, lobsters, cod roes, tongues and sounds, the product of the fisheries of Newfoundland, shall be admitted into the United States free of duty. Also all hogsheads, barrels, kegs, boxes and tin cans in which the articles above named may be carried, shall be admitted free of duty. It is understood, however, that "green" cod fish are not included in the provisions of this article.

Art. III. The officers of customs at the Newfoundland port where the vessel laden with articles named in article II, clears, shall give to the master of the vessel a sworn certificate that the fish shipped were taken in the waters of Newfoundland, which certificate shall be countersigned by the consul or consular agent of the United States and delivered to the proper officer of customs at the port of destination in the United States.

Art. IV. When this convention shall have come into operation, and during the continuance thereof, the duties to be levied and collected upon the following enumerated merchandise imported into the colony of Newfoundland from the United States shall not exceed the following amounts, viz:

Flour, 25 cents per barrel; pork, 1½ cents per pound; bacon and hams, tongues, smoked beef and sausages, 2½ cents per pound, or $2.50 per 112 pounds; beef, pigs' heads, hocks and feet, salted and cured, ½ cent per pound; Indian meal, 25 cents per barrel; peas, 30 cents per barrel; oat meal, 30 cents per barrel of 200 pounds; bran, Indian corn and rice, 12½ per cent ad valorem; salt in bulk, 20 cents per ton of 2,240 pounds; kerosene oil, 6 cents per gallon.

And the following articles imported into the colony of Newfoundland from the United States shall be admitted free of duty.

Agricultural implements and machinery imported by agricultural societies for the promotion of agricultural purposes; and for mining purposes; raw cotton; corn for the manufacture of brooms; gas engines, when protected by patent; plows and harrows; reaping, raking, plowing, potato digging and seed sowing machines used in the colony; printing presses and printing types.

Art. V. It is understood that if any reduction is made by the colony of Newfoundland at any time during the term of this convention, in the rates of duty upon the articles named in article IV of this convention, the said reduction shall apply to the United States.

Art. VI. The present convention shall take effect as soon as the laws required to carry it into operation shall have been passed by the congress of the United States, on the one hand and the imperial parliament of Great Britain and the provincial legislature of Newfoundland on the other. Such assent having been given, the convention shall remain in full force for five years from the date at which it may come into operation, and further until the expiration of two months after either of the high contracting parties shall give notice to the other of its wish to terminate the same; each of the high contracting parties being at liberty to give such notice to the other at the end of the said term of five years or at any time afterwards.

Art. VII.—The present convention shall be duly ratified by the president of the United States of America, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate thereof, and by her Britannic majesty; and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Washington on the first day of February, 1891, or as soon thereafter as practicable.

THE BERING SEA PROCLAMATION.

The President Gives Poachers an Official Pointer.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—The President has issued the following proclamation:

By the President of the United States of of America.

The following provisions of the laws of the United States are hereby published for the information of all concerned:

Section 1,956, revised statutes, chapter 23, enacts that "No person shall kill any otter, mink, marten or sable or fur seal, or other fur-bearing animal within the limits of Alaska territory, or in the waters thereof, and every person guilty thereof shall, for each offense, be fined not less than 200 nor less than 1,000 dollars, or imprisoned not more than six months, or both, and all vessels, their tackle, apparel, furniture and cargo found engaged in violation of this section shall be forfeited, but the secretary of the Treasury shall have power to authorize the killing of any such mink, marten, sable, or other fur bearing animal, except fur seals, under such regulations as he may prescribe, and it shall be the duty of the revenue officers to prevent the killing of any fur seal, and to provide for the execution of the provisions of this section until it is otherwise provided by law, nor shall be grant any special privileges under this section."

Section 3 of the act entitled "an act to provide for the protection of the salmon fisheries of Alaska," approved March 2, 1889, provides that—

"SEC. 3. That section 1956 of the revised statutes of the United States is hereby declared to include and apply to all the dominion of the United States in the waters of Bering sea, and it shall be the duty of the President at a timely season in each year to issue his proclamation and cause the same to be published one month at least in one newspaper if any such there be published at each United States port of entry on the Pacific coast, warning all persons against entering such waters for the purpose of violating the provisions of this statute and of the law, and one or more vessels of the United States to diligently cruise said waters and arrest all persons and seize all vessels found to be or to have been engaged in any violation of the laws of the United States therein."

Now, therefore, I, Benjamin Harrison, President of the United States, pursuant to the above revised statutes, hereby warn all persons against entering the waters of Bering sea within the dominion of the United States for the purpose of violating the provisions of said section 1956 revised statutes; and I hereby proclaim that all persons found to be or to have been engaged in any violation of the laws of the United States in said waters will be arrested and punished as above provided, and that all vessels so employed, their tackle, apparel, furniture and cargoes will be seized and forfeited.

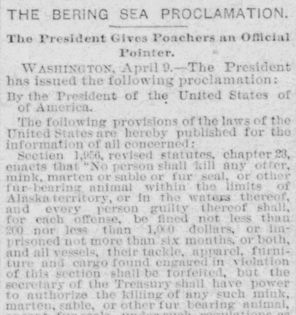
In testimony whereof I hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington this 4th day of April, 1891, and in the independence of the United States the 115th.

BENJAMIN HARRISON.
JAMES G. BLAINE, Secretary of State.

A Chief Drops Dead.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., April 13.—Word has reached here that Chief Homely, of the Cuyuse Indians, dropped dead of heart disease at his camp on the Columbia river. Homely captured and beheaded "Withered Arm Egan," the Bannock chief, in 1878.



Both the method and results when Syrup of Figs is taken; it is pleasant and refreshing to the taste, and acts gently yet promptly on the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels, cleanses the system effectually, dispels colds, headaches and fevers and cures habitual constipation. Syrup of Figs is the only remedy of its kind ever produced, pleasing to the taste and acceptable to the stomach, prompt in its action and truly beneficial in its effects, prepared only from the most healthy and agreeable substances, its many excellent qualities commend it to all and have made it the most popular remedy known.

Syrup of Figs is for sale in 50c and $1 bottles by all leading druggists. Any reliable druggist who may not have it on hand will procure it promptly for any one who wishes to try it Do not accept any substitute.

CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
LOUISVILLE, KY. NEW YORK, N.Y.

Speedy Relief

and certain cure is given in cases of

LA GRIPPE

bronchitis and pneumonia by the prompt use of

AYER'S CHERRY PECTORAL

GREAT STRIKE COMING.

The Operators Moved the Adjournment of the Conference and the Miners Would Not be Bluffed.

PITTSBURG, April 11.—The proposed miners' strike for the adoption of the eight-hour working day, to be ordered three weeks hence, is the chief topic of discussion in industrial circles. The mine operators do not seem to fear the result of the movement. They have been doing some figuring since the abrupt adjournment of the conference, on the ability of the men to endure a long strike. It was thought by many of the operators that by showing a bold front the miners would be scared into making concessions. The miners, on the other hand, were equally bold, and when the motion to adjourn was made on the operators' side of the house, the miners felt their firmness was being put to a test. However, accepting that the operators wanted an adjournment they voted for the motion. The operators could not consistently vote down their own motion, and the motion prevailed.

The miners' determination to carry their demands into the competitive districts has put the operators to thinking. The strike will be a general one, including the coke region, where the trouble is even now being fought on the eight-hour basis.

About 140,000 to 150,000 men will be affected. There are not that many men actively engaged in the mining of coal, but that number will take part in the demands. The non-union men and the day laborers are as anxious as any others for the movement to be made and will necessarily be included in the number requiring assistance during the struggle.

The threatened strike will more directly affect the states of Pennsylvania and Ohio, and Pittsburg will feel its depression to a considerable extent. Over 60,000 men are employed in these two districts.

THE EMPLOYERS ARE COMBINING.

Pacific Coast Capitalists are Against the Boycott.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 13.—Seventy-five contractors and builders met, Saturday, to consider what action should be taken in regard to the proposed boycotts of trades unions on iron work manufactured by non-union foundries. Resolutions were adopted protesting against boycotts and a committee was appointed to effect a permanent organization of employers to resist unreasonable demands of trades unions. Besides this association of builders, another combination of employers is being formed in which over 100 million dollars capital is represented. This association is for the stated purpose of protecting employers against unjust demands of unions, but will not touch the wage question. A week ago the shoemakers in a prominent factory went on strike because the firm introduced a lasting machine. As no settlement could be arranged, three other firms, comprising the shoe manufacturers' association, have declared a lockout. One thousand men, women and boys are thus thrown out of employment.

An Eight-Hour Day.

ST. PAUL, Minn., April 10.—In the House yesterday Long's bill requiring an eight hour working day on all public works passed, as also did Tripp's elective franchise fraud punishment bill, which last forbids the soliciting of votes by candidates.

ITEMS OF INTEREST TO LABOR.

Nearly all the Chicago firms employing lathers have agreed to pay the increased wages demanded by the strikers and the men are returning to work.

As a result of the lock-out of the puddlers the Carnegie Steel company has shut down the Beaver Iron works at Philadelphia, to the number of 400, have struck.

Great preparations are being made by the heads of the Central trades and labor unions of St. Louis for the proposed great May day demonstration in favor of the eight-hour hours and more pay.

A London despatch says: The dispute between the iron masters and workmen in the Cleveland district over the proposed reduction of 12½ per cent in wages, has ended in the movement between the two sides to the new sliding scale. This is tantamount to a reduction of 4½ per cent.

The coke regions were alive with strikers' mass meetings Sunday. The leaders are spurring on their faltering ranks and endeavoring to solidify their ranks and straighten up wavering points. They were out in full force, and have stationed their pickets in the hope of checkmating the reported general movement of operators for resumption which was to be inaugurated today.

Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, says: "If the miners throughout the country are not granted the eight-hour day by May 1, the laboring people throughout the country, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, will lend us all the financial assistance needed to win the expected strike."

TRIAL OF WALTER S. PAYNE.

The Ex-Commander-in-Chief's Case Being Heard Again.

INDIANAPOLIS, April 11.—The trial of Walter S. Payne, of Fostoria, O., ex-commander-in-chief, Sons of Veterans, for embezzlement, began last night. He was tried in 1888, and dishonorably discharged from the order, and was on appeal, granted a new trial. The members of the board appointed to try Col. Payne who were present were: D. W. Wood, of Anderson, Ind.; Judge Advocate Charles F. Griffin, of Indianapolis, ex-national commander, president of the court; Col. John W. Newton, Winchester, Ind.; Col. Geo. W. Harvey, Danville, Ind.; George B. Stadden, Springfield, Ills.; Col. H. W. Fuller, Milwaukee. Col. Payne was represented by J. G. Winfried, of Indianapolis, and O. J. Ross, of Hillsboro, O. The examination of witnesses would conclude to-day and the finding reported to National headquarters at Topeka, Ks., where, if acquitted, the result will be made public at once, but if convicted will not be published until after a review of the evidence by the commander-in-chief.

UNDER NEW BANKING LAWS.

Kansas Institutions Prefer the Protection of the State.

TOPEKA, Kan., April 10.—The secretary of State has received notice from at least a dozen national banks throughout the state signifying their intention of denationalizing and reorganizing under the new state bank law. It is likely that the greater part of the smaller national banks of the state will pursue the same course.

The law referred to was passed by the last legislature, and assures every protection that the national banking act gives, and relieves the banks of the necessity of such a large capitalization. A great number of the private banks have also signified a desire to organize under the new law.

STEEL COMPANY GOES TO THE WALL

A Receiver Appointed—Other Reverses in Business.

PITTSBURG, Pa., April 10.—J. M. Schoonmaker was yesterday appointed by Judge Reed, of the United States district court, as receiver of the Columbia Iron and Steel company, with directions to file a bond in the sum of $100,000.

Tennessee's Direct Tax Claim.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—The United States treasurer has paid the governor of Tennessee the direct tax claims of that state, amounting to $392,000.

BLAINE AND BUSINESS

JAMES G. WILL BE A CANDIDATE.

A Formidable Movement Has Been Started to Make the Secretary of State the Next President.

WASHINGTON, April 13.—(Special.)—Within the last 48 hours Mr. Blaine has held a conference with some of those who engineered his candidacy for the Presidency in 1888, and who were so grievously disappointed at his Florence letter, declining to allow the use of his name.

The active friends of the secretary of State have been quietly at work sounding people in the different states, and have come to the conclusion that he can be nominated with practical unanimity if he will not handicap their efforts by a public declination in advance of the meeting of the convention.

All those who have been Mr. Blaine's staunchest supporters in years past are in it, and others who have not heretofore been favorable to his candidacy are also said to now be willing to work for him.

A good deal of work was done on the Hearst funeral train in feeling the pulse of the different states through which the journey was made, and the engineers are now satisfied, they say, that Blaine can sweep the country in no 1892, his reciprocity policy.

At this conference Mr. Blaine said he could not be a candidate against President Harrison; and when he was told that he need not be a candidate "against" any one, but that all he need to do was to keep still and allow his friends to do the work, with the understanding that he should accept the nomination if it came to him, he finally agreed to this, and it is now understood by those in the secret that he is a Presidential candidate. Whether he will seek an opportunity to leave President Harrison's cabinet, or whether he will remain and claim that he has no knowledge of what his friends are doing in his behalf, remains to be seen. It is said that Secretary Tracy and ex-Senator Platt are in the movement, although the latter has given Secretary Foster promises of assistance in carrying New York for President Harrison.

SENATOR G. F. EDMUNDS RESIGNS.

He Has Grown Weary of Public Life at Washington.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 8.—Senator George F. Edmunds, of Vermont, who has been in the Senate of the United States since April, 1866, and in nearly if not quite all of that time has been one of the Republican leaders, has resigned, the resignation to take effect the first day of November next.

The following is a copy of the letter tendering his resignation to the governor of Vermont:

UNITED STATES SENATE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., April 6, 1891.

SIR:—Considerations entirely personal lead me to tender to you, as the governor of the state of Vermont, the resignation of the office of senator of the United States, the resignation to take effect on the first day of November, A. D., 1891.

This action has been for some time in contemplation and is finally decided on and communicated to you at this time in order that there may be ample time to hear and consider the views of the people of our state in respect to the selection of my successor.

In thus terminating my official relation with the state, I beg to express to her steadfast, intelligent and patriotic citizens my profound gratitude for their long and unwavering confidence and support they have given me (covering an eventful period of a quarter of a century), in my efforts to promote and defend, so far as I have been able, their honor and welfare in common with that of all the people of the United States.

In ceasing to be a senator I am proud that I continue to be a citizen of our beloved commonwealth, and that I may, with my fellow-citizens in private life, continue to strive for the maintenance of those principles of liberty, equality and justice in government which have been the source and fortune, ordained from the foundation of the republic. I am, sir, very respectfully yours, GEORGE F. EDMUNDS.

To His Excellency, Carroll S. Page, Hyde Park, Vt.

Senator Edmunds notified Vice President Morton, the president of the Senate, of his resignation in a letter of which the following is a copy:

U. S. SENATE, WASHINGTON,
April 6, 1891.

SIR:—It becomes my duty to inform you that I have sent to the governor of the state of Vermont my resignation of the office of Senator of the United States, to take effect on the first day of November next.

Accept, sir, for yourself and the Senate, my parting salutations, embracing personal good wishes for all its members, and a confident good hope for its future as "the sheet anchor of the republic."

I am, sir, very respectfully yours,
GEORGE F. EDMUNDS.

The Hon. Levi P. Morton, Vice President of The United States, and President of the Senate, Washington, D. C.

There promises to be a most interesting and spirited contest for the succession to the Senatorship. There will be several candidates for the place, including Hon. Henry Powers, Congressman-elect from the first district.

The name of Judge Wheelock G. Veasey, of the U. S. Interstate commerce commission, and ex-Gov. John W. Stewart, may also be included in the list of possible candidates. Ex-Gov. J. Gregory Smith, of St. Albans, has many friends throughout the state who would be gratified to see him fill the office. Senator Edmunds lives on the west side of the Green mountains, from which section under the unwritten political law of the state his successor must be taken. The situation is an extremely interesting one, and the political waters in Vermont will be stirred to their depths during the coming year.

IT MAY CHANGE THE CABINET.

Results That May Follow Senator Edmunds's Resignation.

WASHINGTON, April 14.—(Special.)—The resignation of Senator Edmunds will probably make a change in the President's cabinet. It is said that Secretary Proctor is ambitious to go to the Senate and those who are familiar with affairs in Vermont believe that he will be chosen as Mr. Edmunds's successor. This will be eminently proper, for Mr. Proctor is a very able man. He has handled the affairs of the War department with great skill and there have been times, particularly during the recent Indian outbreak when signal ability and great tact were required.

He is easy and affable in manner, always accessible, and with those who have had business with him, he has become very popular. If he should leave the Cabinet, it would give the President an opportunity of selecting some other practical politician. "The best thing the President could do when Mr. Procter resigns," said a man who had a good deal to do with Gen. Harrison's election, "would be to transfer Noble to the War department, and put some man with good executive ability at the head of the Interior department.

"The best man I know is Gen. John S. Clarkson. He would soon bring order into the business there, and his appointment would give satisfaction to a very large portion of the Republican party. It would also be a proper recognition of the great services that Gen. Clarkson rendered during the last campaign. However," he added, "Edmunds's resignation don't take effect until next November, and there is no use being in a hurry about believing that there will be another cabinet vacancy."

Appointments.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—The President has appointed Edward T. Batch to be collector of customs for the district of Alaska; James P. Bushee, special agent to allot lands in severalty to the confederated bands of the Cayuse, Walla Walla and Umatilla Indians; also Robert W. Furnes, of Nebraska, to be commissioner at large at the Columbian exposition, and Hale G. Parker, of Missouri, alternate commissioner at large.

Census Bulletin.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—A tabulated census statement gives the number of failures and the extent of the liabilities arising therefrom in the United States and in the New England states for the ten years ended in 1889. The total of failures in the United States is 88,843, with a total of liabilities of $1,337,163,225. The New England failures in the same period were 10,809, and liabilities $183,408,925.

Secretary Foster's Assistant.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—The President today appointed Lorenzo Crounz, of Nebraska, to be assistant secretary of the treasury, vice Gen. Batcheller, resigned.

THE GOVERNMENT CROP REPORT.

April Returns Furnish Some Cheering Information.

WASHINGTON, April 13.—The April returns to the Department of Agriculture make condition of winter wheat 90.9 and rye 95.4.

The season for seeding was favorable over the whole winter wheat area; the soil was generally easily worked, the seed had been prepared with unusual care, and sowing followed by gentle rains sufficient to properly pack the earth and insure prompt and perfect germination. On portions of the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, the time of seeding was somewhat prolonged by occasional rains, but the delay was not serious, and the desired area was planted and in good growth by the advent of winter. Suitable weather and soil conditions enabled farmers of the Ohio valley states to put in a full breadth under entirely favorable circumstances, and proper combinations of sunshine and moisture which continued until cold weather sent the plant into winter quarters with sturdy growth and good color. In portions of Kansas and Nebraska, the prolonged drought of last summer extended into the period of seeding, interfering somewhat and rendering germination slow but seasonable weather during late fall and early winter. Sufficient to offset the disadvantage of a late start.

The entire season was favorable in California, while in Oregon a dry seed bed received moisture in time to secure good though late growth. The weather was generally mild over the whole area and while the snowfall was comparatively light it came when most needed, protecting the plant during the coldest weather.

The Ohio valley and trans-Mississippi states were especially favored, growth in many sections continuing throughout the winter with sufficient covering when needed, and an entire absence of damage from freezing and heaving. Brown and bare spots are seldom met with, growth and color being remarkably uniform.

The Hessian fly, which was feared in December in the Central West, is yet in abeyance, but the presence of the pest is reported in many localities, and serious injury might follow should the early season prove favorable to its development.

The general average for condition is the highest reported for April since 1882, and the individual state averages are remarkable for their uniformity. It is sixteen points higher than last year, and three above the returns for 1889. A high April condition does not insure a large yield, but it indicates a strength and vitality which would enable the plant to withstand more than ordinary vicissitudes of the season. The nearest approach to present condition during recent years was in 1884, when the largest crop ever grown was harvested, but similar high condition in 1886 was followed by a crop of little more than average proportions. The averages of condition in the principal states are:

New York 92, Pennsylvania 97, Tennessee, 98; Kentucky 97, Ohio 98, Michigan 93, Indiana 99, Illinois 97, Missouri 95, Kansas 89, California 99, and Oregon 97.

The returns make the percentages of losses among farm animals during the past year, of horses 1.7, cattle 3, sheep 4, and swine 8.4. Horses receive better care than any other class of stock, and annual losses vary but little.

The percentage of loss of cattle is slightly higher than was reported in 1888 and 1889, the scarcity of feed swelling the figures in portions of Kansas and Nebraska. The losses of sheep have been smaller than usual, the result of better care and attention, while less disease than usual is reported among swine, though there is heavy loss in the regions of last year's crop failures.

SPLENDID WHEAT IN NORTH DAKOTA

Governor Burke Gives a Roseate View of the Crop Prospects.

ST. PAUL, Minn., April 10.—Governor Burke of North Dakota, in answer to the question as to the crop outlook in the state of which he is the chief executive, said: "The indications are the best for seven years, and I believe the wheat crop in North Dakota this year will be the largest ever known there. The present conditions are very similar to the spring of 1883, when we had the big crop.

"It is difficult to get at the acreage as compared with last year. It will be an increase in the far west counties, where the farmers are engaged in stock raising, but which, while more very profitable. Thousands of sheep have been shipped into North Dakota in the last six months.

"As to all-round conditions as compared with last year I will say that at this time last year the prospect was never poorer, and it has not been better for the past seven years than at present. North Dakota will be very prosperous this season."

ANIMALS MUST BE "PURE BRED"

In Order to Come In Under the Free Entry Clause.

WASHINGTON, April 13.—Assistant Secretary Spaulding has denied an application for refund of duties amounting to $165 exacted at the port of Port Huron, Mich., on two mares imported from Canada and claimed to be free of duty as animals especially imported for breeding purposes. This action is based on a report received from the collector at Port Huron, who says that in his opinion the animals are not "pure bred" animals, and that this is a condition precedent to the free entry of animals for breeding purposes under the statute. Edmunds lives on the west side of the Green mountains, from which section under the unwritten political law of the state his successor must be taken. The situation is an extremely interesting one, and the political waters in Vermont will be stirred to their depths during the coming year.

A SPECULATION BY HAY DEALERS.

A Gigantic Deal Upon Which Much Money will be Made.

ST. PAUL, Minn., April 9.—The Southwestern shortage in the hay crop is making itself felt here in a peculiar way. Agents from Omaha, St. Joseph, Kansas City and St. Louis are in the Twin Cities buying every straw of hay they can get at the prevailing price, $7.50 per ton, and it is learned that their operations have not been confined to the two cities. They have visited dozens of the country towns within easy reach of railroads and have contracted for all the hay in sight at an average price. The purchases already made amount to 1,300 tons. In fact there is a well developed corner in hay.

AGRICULTURE AT THE FAIR.

The Farmers' Interests Will Not be Overlooked.

CHICAGO, April 9.—The executive committee appointed by the recent convention of the association of American agricultural colleges and experimental stations held at Champaign, Ills., for the purpose of securing a co-operative exhibit at the World's Fair, have held a meeting at the Sherman house. H. P. Armsby, of Pennsylvania; George F. Morrow, Illinois; C. E. Thorne, Ohio; S. M. Tracy, Mississippi; W. A. Henry, Wisconsin, and A. W. Harris, Washington, were present. Mr. Harris, who is assistant director of the office of experiment stations, presented a plan for an exhibit which was comprehensive in its range and largely topical in character. The stations were established some two years ago and are under the management of the various agricultural colleges, and are for the purpose of making scientific investigation in the interest of agriculture. It is intended by the exhibit to bring the work of the stations to public notice and to show the main features of the work and the results accomplished. The World's Fair people have been communicated with and are pleased with the idea.

THE INVESTIGATION CONTINUES.

Parkerson Before the Grand Jury in New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, La., April 8.—The grand jury met again yesterday and actively entered upon the investigation of the lynching of the eleven Italians in the parish prison. Attorney-General Rogers was present, assisting the grand jury in its work. Among the witnesses examined during the day were Messrs. W. D. Parkerson, the leader of the mob, and the Italian consul, Pasquale Corte, and his secretary. It is understood that the original list of the committee of safety that made the call upon the people to attack the prison was filed with the grand jury.

HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE
Beware of imitations.

THE OWEN ELECTRIC BELT AND APPLIANCES

TALK ABOUT RECIPROCITY

IT IS NOT ADVISABLE WITH CANADA,

Says Senator Morrill—The Canadian Commissioners Talk of Their Visit—Jamaica Wants to Have Reciprocity With Us.

NEW YORK, April 10.—Senator Morrill, of Vermont, was asked, last evening, what he thought of the prospects for Canadian reciprocity.

"They are not flattering," he said. "Reciprocity with Canada is undesirable. We could not enter into such relations on any article except coal with advantage to ourselves. We do not want to take off the duty of their horses and cattle and barley. The difficulty lies in the desire of Canada to make no discriminations against England. If they were given the reciprocal relations with this country which some have asked, they would insist on the same with England, and England would derive all the benefit.

"With one half the wages we pay they would supply the machinery and other manufactured goods, and Canadian farmers would send us their products, buying little in return. Sir John Macdonald would as soon put poison into his own coffee as entertain a proposition to establish relations with us which discriminated against the mother country."

"Do you look for any changes in the tariff law at the next Congress?"

"No general changes. If the Democratic House were to pass a general tariff bill, it is not likely that the Senate would agree to it. The recent elections indicate that the sentiment has changed since the elections last fall, and some of those Senators who were not willing to vote with us for the McKinley bill might hesitate before they voted for any radical measures in the next Congress. If the changes in membership and the strength of those who voted against the bill last session resulted in passing a bill from the Democratic House, the President would veto it."

THE CANADIANS ARRIVE HOME.

Messrs. Thompson and Foster Pleased With Their Visit, Though Fruitless.

OTTAWA, April 10.—In the early morning hours Sir John Thompson and the Hon. George E. Foster reached here from Washington. Their first utterances were complimentary to both President Harrison and Secretary Blaine.

There was a full attendance at yesterday afternoon's cabinet meeting. The Washington delegation submitted the result of Monday's conference with Secretary Blaine. Both are confident that the Republican administration will meet Canada half way on the prospective negotiations for the settlement of the trade, and the Atlantic fishery questions.

The manufacturers who support Sir John Macdonald, are so opposed to any movement looking toward complete reciprocity in manufactured articles that great difficulties will be experienced in meeting Mr. Blaine's views.

JAMAICA IS GETTING IMPATIENT

Because the Government Takes No Steps Looking to Reciprocity.

HALIFAX, N. S., April 10.—Kingston, Jamaica, papers bitterly complain that the government does not take prompt steps to secure the advantages of the reciprocity clause of the McKinley tariff.

Notwithstanding the recent visit of the Canadian finance minister, and the fact that the question is being discussed with the greatest interest in Barbadoes, Trinidad and Guiana, not a word has been spoken by the Jamaica government or in the legislature.

The Kingston *Gleaner* says: "An export trade which at present amounts to £1,000,000 a year is at stake. This sum might dwindle to less than half if we by inaptitude or inertness lose our hold on the American market. It may on the other hand be doubled in the course of a few years if we strengthen that hold.

"If both the executive and the legislature continue blind and dumb, it is for the people of Jamaica, every man who has or hopes to have commercial relations with the United States, to call upon our government not to remain inert, and if it has any intentions, to reveal them. If they allow the present juncture to pass without action, they will suffer, as they will surely deserve the fate of commercial extinction in their best market."

INTERESTING STATISTICAL ATLAS.

A Valuable Bulletin Issued by Superintendent Porter.

WASHINGTON, April 11.—Superintendent Porter, of the Census bureau, has issued a very interesting and valuable bulletin, which shows by a statistical atlas the increase and decrease of population of the United States from 1880 to 1890. This atlas, by a series of maps, exhibits to the eye the varying intensity of settlement over the area of the country, the distribution of the foreign population among the several states and sections, and the distribution of population in accordance with maximum and minimum temperature, rainfall and all matters in this respect.

The map shows a very large number of counties in which the population has actually decreased. The number of counties showing decreases in population during the past ten years is 455. In about fifty cases the reduction was due to reduction of territory. In 138 counties the number of inhabitants established during the decade preceding 1880. The loss during the past decade occurred mainly in the central parts of the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, New York, Northern New Jersey and Eastern Virginia, and is scattered quite generally through Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Tennessee and Kentucky. Southern Michigan and Wisconsin have also suffered, while in Eastern Iowa a large proportion of the counties have lost in population. Much other valuable information is contained in a study of the map, which is the first ever issued by any census bureau.

GENERAL RUGER TO GO WEST.

Assigned to Command the Department of the Pacific.

WASHINGTON, April 8.—The War department to-day sent an order to Gen. Ruger, commanding the department of Dakota, assigning him to the command of the division of the Pacific, with headquarters at San Francisco. Gen. Ruger is to assume command of the division by the 20th inst., on which date Gen. Gibbon, the present commander retires. Nothing has yet been done by the War department in the matter of the selection of a successor to Gen. Ruger as commander of the department of Dakota, and it is uncertain whether the next brigadier general, who will reach that rank through the retirement of Gen. Gibbon, will be assigned to the department of Dakota, or whether that command will be filled by the transfer of some officer now in command of another and less desirable department.

Secretary Foster Going to New York.

WASHINGTON, April 14.—Secretary Foster started to New York to-day for a visit of several days. He said this morning that he is going mainly on private business, but that while there he will visit the custom house for the purpose of becoming better acquainted with the officials and the existing methods of administration. He said that there is no change in the "situation in New York" and that he saw no immediate prospects of any so far as he is concerned.

Declared the Port Closed.

WASHINGTON, April 11.—The secretary of State has received information from the United States minister at Santiago, Chili, that the government of Chili has declared closed the ports of Chanaral, Taltal, Antofagasta, Ocopilla, Iquique, Caletabueno, Upnin and Pisagua. The minister also states that all vessels attempting to trade with these ports are liable to confiscation.

Gen. Rosecrans Better.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—Gen. Rosecrans slept well last night and is much improved to-day. He is able to sit up and his physican thinks he will be well enough to leave his room next week.

Gen. Spinola Dead.

WASHINGTON, April 14.—Gen. Spinola died at 1:25 o'clock this morning.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—U. S. Gov't Report, Aug. 17, 1889.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER ABSOLUTELY PURE

BIG CHICAGO FIRE.

A Desperate Battle With the Flames and Many Narrow Escapes.

CHICAGO, April 13.—A fire started in a Chicago stable in the center of the city last night that looked as though it might cause a repetition of the scenes of 1871. The stable was the property of the well known furniture manufacturer and politician, John M. Smyth, and was located in the rear of his big house furnishing establishment on West Madison street, near Halstead street. The flames speedily communicated to the furniture establishment, and a moment later to Kohl & Middleton's dime museum.

When, in a marvelously short interval, both structures had turned into a mass of flame, great fiery tongues darted across the street and lodged in the upper stories of the buildings on the north side of Madison street. A moment later the firemen along the thoroughfare found themselves working between two towering walls of fire.

At Kohl & Middleton's museum some one opened a window on the third floor, through which a volume of smoke poured, filling the entire floor. A wild panic followed among the 400 persons in the building, most of whom, however, were on the first floor watching a variety performance. Those on the first floor were first apprised of their danger by the stampede on the upper floor, and as they arose to their feet and fled precipitately toward the front door the fire appeared at the rear windows, increasing the terror of the crowd. The emergency brought out a hero in the person of Policeman Patrick Sheehy.

Forcing his way through the frightened people, who were madly retarding each other in the jam at the exit, he stationed himself at the head of the stairs and drawing his revolver declared his intention to kill the first person who refused to obey his orders. By coolness and deliberation he succeeded in quieting the panic, and with one exception everybody reached the street in safety. The exception was C. H. Messinger, a young man, who, before Officer Sheehy reached the stair landing, made a rush for the front of the building and throwing open the window jumped out into the street. He fell with awful force on the stone pavement and was unconscious when picked up.

It took 40 fire engines and nearly 300 firemen to bring the fire under subjection. Several times it seemed as if the men would be compelled to abandon their engines, so intense was the heat, but cheered on by indefatigable superiors, they managed to withstand the heat by turning the hose upon themselves. The nerve displayed by the firemen was heightened by the fact that all the time they knew at least 100 barrels of oil were stored in the basement of the Smyth establishment, likely at any time to create a terrific explosion. The losses, as far as can be ascertained, foot up $742,000.

When the fire broke out, Dr. J. Z. Bergeron was attending Mrs. Sarah Macks in a flat in one of the buildings subsequently burned. When the fire got too close, Dr. Bergeron seized the suffering woman, and wrapping her in blankets, descended three flights of stairs with his burden and carried her to a refuge near by. In less than fifteen minutes a fine girl baby was born amid a crash of falling walls and the hoarse shouts of the firemen. Both mother and child are doing well. Bergeron lost a valuable set of instruments and his overcoat and hat in the fire, but to-night was happy in having saved his patients.

OUR PATENT SYSTEM'S CENTENNIAL

The Day Commemorated by a Visit to Mount Vernon.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—To-day being the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the American patent system, the patent centennial committee recognized the day as the birth of the present system, by inviting the members attending the centennial here to visit Mount Vernon. Through the courtesy of Secretary Tracy, the band from the Annapolis naval academy accompanied the excursionists on the trip.

The Patent Centennial, which is now in progress, is really one of the most important events in the history of our industries. It has brought to this city the most distinguished inventors and those manufacturers who use patented articles. The papers that have been read at the subsequent sessions have been of great practical value to all interested in the patent system. Among them were two Ohio people—one on "The effects of our Patent system on the Material Development of the United States," by Hon. Ben. Butterworth, and the other on "The Relations of Abstract Scientific Research to Practical Invention, with special reference to Chemistry and Physics," by Prof. F. W. Clarke, chief chemist U. S. Geological Survey.

One result of the celebration has been the formation of a national association that will probably have its headquarters in this city called, "The American Association of Inventors and Manufacturers," which will have especial guard over all inventors and their products.

HUSTON RESIGNS,

And Mr. Nebecker is Appointed United States Treasurer.

WASHINGTON, April 13.—The following correspondence, dated Washington, February 24, explains itself:

To the President:

SIR:—I would respectfully tender my resignation as treasurer of the United States, to take effect when it may be convenient to name my successor. Acknowledging my deep sense of gratitude to you for the kindness received at your hands, I remain, truly yours,

J. M. HUSTON.
Treasurer of the United States.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, April 13.

Hon. J. M. Huston:

SIR:—I have delayed action upon your letter of February 24, tendering your resignation of the office of treasurer of the United States for reasons known to you. I now yield to your request to be relieved from the duties of your office, and accept your resignation to take effect upon the appointment and qualification of your successor.

I regret that your personal affairs compel you to this step, and beg to assure you of my sincere and continued regard and best wishes. Very sincerely yours,

BENJAMIN HARRISON.

Nebeker Appointed.

WASHINGTON, April 14.—The President has appointed Enos H. Nebeker, of Indiana, to be United States treasurer, vice Huston, resigned.

THE CONFESSION OF POLITZ.

The Evidence That Is Being Presented in New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, April 13.—The grand jury is expected to report during the coming week, and among other things it is said that the confession of Politz will be used in the report.

Although Politz protested his own innocence, he acknowledged that he had joined the Mafia under the impression that it was a benevolent society, was present at the meeting when Hennessy's death was decided upon, and was ordered to carry the guns in a sack to Monasterio's shanty, but refused. He did not know of the killing until the Sunday following, but afterward learned the details from Monasterio, and they were substantially the same as claimed by the state upon the trial implicating Scoffedi, Marchesi, Bagnetto and Monasterio as Hennessy's slayers. The state did not use the confession because it had such direct proof of Politz's presence at the killing, which his story denied. Politz is said to have had a brother who closely resembled him, who has not been heard of since the killing, and is presumably in Italy. Had he been found the identification might have been transferred to him. Politz's confession formed an important link in the chain of evidence.

The Head of the Catholic Church Passes Away.

ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla., April 14.—Bishop R. Gilmour died at 7:30 o'clock last evening. Rt. Rev. Bishop McCloskey, of Kentucky; Fathers Wright and Houck, and his faithful nurses, sisters of the Sacred Heart, were with him to the last. Father Hauk left to-day with the remains for Cleveland, Ohio.

CHICAGO'S ELECTION.

A Contest Over the Mayoralty Result—Much Excitement Over It.

CHICAGO, April 9.—The Republicans claim the election of Hempstead Washburne, Republican, for mayor, by about 1,700 plurality. The remainder of the Republican city ticket is also elected. In the aldermanic contests, 11 Republicans and 23 Democrats have been chosen. Under these conditions the council will stand 43 Democrats and 25 Republicans.

Both Republicans and Democrats continue to charge each other with fraud in a more or less definite way. The former charge the latter with holding back returns for the purpose of changing them so as to give Cregier a majority; while the Democrats charge the Republicans with having juggled the returns in certain precincts by counting votes cast for Elmer Washburn as Hempstead Washburne votes.

The Republicans also accuse the Democrats of conspiracy to secure an apparent majority for Cregier before the election board with a view to precipitating a contest in the courts, which can be protracted, Cregier in the meantime holding the office, until the two years provided as the term of office shall have expired.

Ex-Mayor Harrison, who ran as an independent Democrat in opposition to Cregier, has joined forces with the Republicans in the fight against Cregier before the election board. He appeared in the office of the board on April 10, and displayed all of his old-time fire and vigor. He declared that it was his wish, above all things, to have the charges of fraud ferreted out.

He declared that he was prepared to subscribe $10,000 to a fund for that purpose and that he knew prominent business men who would raise an additional $50,000. When asked whether he was about to leave the city he cried: "No, sir. I am in politics and I am going to remain in this city for two years more. I am in politics."

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

The Australian Federation.

SYDNEY, N. S. W., April 9.—The federation convention has adopted resolutions that the federal parliament shall fix and control the customs, and the present tariffs shall remain unchanged pending the adoption of a uniform tariff with free trade throughout the federation. A proposal to define the consolidation of the public debt on the basis of £40 per head of the population was rejected, and it was decided to leave that matter to be dealt with by parliament. The local powers of the colonial parliaments have not been touched, but there is a proviso that in the event of laws clashing, the federal parliament shall prevail.

SYDNEY, N. S. W., April 11.—The Australian federation convention has resolved that the draft of the constitution which it has been considering be submitted to a popularly elected convention in each Australian colony, and that if three of these colonial conventions approve the constitution, the imperial government shall be asked to take steps for its establishment.

At the session of the Australian Federation convention on April 8, the delegates adopted the constitution bill, and the session closed amid a scene of great enthusiasm.

What Italy Will Do.

ROME, April 13.—Up to noon to-day it was impossible to learn anything further concerning the report that the Italian cabinet had decided to request United States Minister Porter to leave Rome in case no reply to Premier Rudini's last note is received from Secretary Blaine by to-morrow. Officials are reticent, and journalists are unable to secure definite confirmation or denial.

At the American legation, nothing can be learned. Minister Porter has heard nothing except what he has gained from the papers.

SHE WILL SUE FOR A DIVORCE.

Mrs. James G. Blaine, Jr., Has Changed Her Mind.

NEW YORK, April 13.—Mrs. James G. Blaine, jr., has decided to sue for a divorce. Her troubles with her husband are all known to the reading public. As she was a Catholic and married in the Catholic faith, which holds marriage as a sacrament and denies the right of divorce except with the special dispensation of the Pope, it has been generally understood that she would not seek a divorce.

She has often said that she did not wish for a divorce, because she would never remarry, and she would not let her husband be free to marry again. That she has changed her mind is quite evident, and there are not wanting gossips who say that she will, in the event of securing a divorce, marry the eminent young surgeon, Dr. Bull, of this city.

This is also pointed out as the reason for her change of purpose. Whatever the occasion, she has recently added Judge George Roadly to the list of her attorneys, which included Colonel R. G. Ingersoll, District Attorney Delancy Nicholl and Howe & Hummell, and intrusted him with negotiations looking to her freedom, with the hope of securing the same by the acquiescence of the head of the Blaine family—the secretary of State.

It was decided that she should go to one of the Western states and take up her residence, in order to secure a divorce for non-support or some similar cause. It is said that attorneys in Ohio have advised her that she can still claim that state as her home, and that she can go there and sue at once for a divorce. But it is believed that South Dakota has been selected as the state where she can best attain her object.

MR. SPRECKELS IS NOT IN IT.

The Sugar Combine Does Not Include Him and He Will Remain in New York.

PHILADELPHIA, April 13.—With an emphasis that did not permit of any misunderstanding, C. A. Spreckels, of the big sugar refinery, has again placed the seal of denial upon the latest story relative to a restriction of the output of sugar from the local establishment.

"You may say," Spreckels remarked with calm deliberation and decisiveness, "that the report is absolutely without foundation. I do not know why it is so frequently revived. In the face of all we can say, the newspapers keep on bringing it up again and again. The Spreckels refinery will continue to be operated at its fullest capacity, some 7,000 barrels of sugar per day. No proposition has come to us, either directly or indirectly, looking to the restriction of output. No such proposition has been considered by us, and I would like you to say unreservedly that no such project would receive the slightest attention from us. There is positively no reason for circulating such reports, and I do wish you would deny them broadly and explicitly. When we established our business here we announced our purpose to stay here, and that is just what we propose to do."

COUNT LEUWENHAUPT IS DEAD.

Secretary Bayard's Daughter a Widow After a Week.

WILMINGTON, Del., April 13.—Count Leuwenhaupt, who recently married Miss Bayard, died this morning. The marriage of Count Leuwenhaupt to Miss Ellen, youngest daughter of ex-Secretary of State Thomas F. Bayard, took place at noon of April 2, little more than a week ago at the Bayard homestead, "Delamore Place," in Wilmington.

Count Leuwenhaupt was a member of a noble family of Sweden, but, having chosen to make his home in the United States, preferred to be considered as a private individual, and, it is said, requested his friends to drop his title when addressing him. He was a very popular man in society circles, and his marriage with Miss Bayard was considered an extremely happy one.

Anna Dickinson.

NEW YORK, April 10.—Anna Dickinson left the city this forenoon for Goshen, N. Y., where she will undergo medical treatment.

HARRISON'S GIANT SWING.

TRIP OF THE PRESIDENTIAL PARTY.

A Magnificent Train Left the Capital This Morning For a Journey Across the Continent.

WASHINGTON, April 14.—The President and Mrs. Harrison, with the party who will accompany them on their trip to the far West, left here at 12:10 this morning on the special train especially prepared for their use. Only a few persons, beside the railroad employes, were at the station to witness the departure of the train. As the train drew out of the station the President stood on the rear platform of the last car and, removing his hat, bowed a good bye to those waiting to see him off. The first stopping place was Lynchburg, Va., which was reached at 6:45 this morning.

The party consisted of the following named persons:

The President and Mrs. Harrison, Mrs. McKee, Mrs. Dimmick, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Harrison, Postmaster-General Wanamaker, Secretary Rusk, Marshal D. M. Ransdell, Mr. and Mrs. George W. Boyd, Mr. E. F. Tibbott, the President's stenographer, Maj. Sanger of the army, and representatives of the press associations. Mr. Boyd will have general charge of the train, and Marshal Ransdell will act as the immediate representative of the President throughout the trip.

Secretary Rusk will accompany the party only as far as Galveston, to which place he goes for the purpose of making inquiries concerning the presence of Texas fever among cattle.

ROANOKE, Va., April 14.—The Presidential train arrived at this town at 8:50 o'clock this morning, having made the run from Washington on extra schedule time. There was no special incidents on the route. Fifteen minutes were spent at Lynchburg for the purpose of shifting the train from the Richmond & Danville road to the Norfolk & Western. A large crowd was at the station, but there was no demonstration. This was due to the early hour, 6:35 o'clock, and the fact that the President had not arisen. Another brief stop was made at Blue Ridge, where a crowd gathered at the station and enjoyed the spectacle of the chief magistrate of their country and his family at breakfast. The reception at Roanoke was most enthusiastic. The President shook hands with many hundred people from the rear platform and in response to repeated demands, made a short speech. The entire population of the place seemed to have gathered at the station, and as many of them as could do so embraced the chance to shake hands with the President. Mrs. Harrison was presented with a handsome bouquet by Mr. and Mrs. Eddy.

COMMERCIAL CONGRESS.

An Interesting Letter From President Harrison Read—Temporary Organization.

KANSAS CITY, MO., April 14.—The first Western States Commercial Congress convened at noon to-day at the Coates Opera-house, with delegations present from the following 24 Western and Southern states and territories:

California, Washington, Idaho, Colorado, New Mexico, Wyoming, Montana, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Georgia, Texas and Oklahoma.

The delegations are composed mainly of business men appointed by the governors of the various states, and are representatives of the Western and Southern people.

The convention was called for 10 o'clock, but it was nearly noon when the chairman of the executive committee rapped for order.

When the name of John C. Wickliffe, of New Orleans, was called in the distribution of the mail, his name was recognized as that of one of the leaders of the citizens' of New Orleans, who executed the 11 Italians, charged with Chief Hennessy's death. When he stepped to the stage his appearance was greeted with applause. Without acknowledging it he quickly resumed his seat.

The convention was called to order by state Senator Kelly, of Kansas. He introduced the Rev. Dr. Hayes, of this city, who offered a prayer. The convention then proceeded to temporary organization. By motion of Gov. Francis of Missouri, Senator Kelly was chosen temporary chairman. In a long speech of acceptance, he explained the object of the congress to be the consideration of various questions of peculiar interest to the West and South. A letter from President Harrison was then read.

REPUBLICAN LEAGUE OF THE U. S.

Arrangements for the Annual Meeting Completed.

NEW YORK, April 13.—The arrangements for the forthcoming annual convention of the Republican League of the United States have been completed.

The convention will be the largest one in the history of the league. The sessions will begin at Music Hall, Cincinnati, at noon April 21. There will be 1,019 delegates. There will be two delegates-at-large from each Congressional district in which there are one or more permanent Republican clubs, together with the president and secretary of each state league. All officers of the national league are delegates ex-officio.

The national secretary, Andrew B. Humphrey, will open headquarters for the National League officers at the Grand Hotel, Cincinnati, Saturday, April 18.

On the evening of April 21 a Republican league mass meeting will be held in the great music hall, which has a capacity of 10,000. The meeting will be under the auspices of the league. Among the speakers invited are James G. Blaine, Chauncey M. Depew, John C. Spooner, ex-Secretary W. B. Allison, Gen. Russell A. Alger, ex Governor J. B. Foraker, Hon. John M. Langston, Wm. McKinley, jr., and Thomas B. Reed, of Maine.

Intruders Ordered Out.

ARKANSAS CITY, Kas., April 9.—Secretary Noble has ordered all intruders out of the Sac and Fox, Cheyenne and Arapahoes and Iowa and Pattawattomie Indian reservations, and has instructed the soldiers to clear the entire country.

Finance and Trade.

THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

MONEY.—During last week the gold exports to Europe were a disturbing factor in the money market. The demand for currency from the West and South was also pretty free, and hence the expected accumulation of money at New York has not yet begun. The government payments during the week, however, were large, and the money market remained without material change, save that it closed with a stronger tone. Call money loaned at from 2 to 4 per cent, averaging 3 per cent, which was the renewal figure. In time money there was good demand and liberal offerings, the rate being 4½ per cent for 60 days to 4 months, and 5 per cent for 5 to 6 months, on good security.

There seemed, last week, to have been a lull in business in London, with the result of a glut of money. On Thursday call loans were made at 1 per cent, and 90-day bank bills were quoted at 2 per cent; the week closed, however, at a trifle higher figure. Money on the continent was dearer than in London, the figure being 2¾ at Paris, Berlin and Frankfort.

STOCKS.—Last week the long expected rally in the stock market took place. There was a large and general advance in prices. Stocks of the so-called granger railroads especially advanced—the improvement dating from the veto of the maximum freight rate bill by the governor of Nebraska. This was accepted as meaning that public opinion in the West is not insanely hostile to the railroads and that legislation which would decrease largely the value of the property as represented by stock is not to be expected. This veto is accepted as the turning point in the crusade against the railroads, and since that the stocks of all the Western roads has taken a turn for the better.

The stimulation of the stock market was further favored by the splendid accounts of the crop condition all over the country, the prospects for a poor crop in Europe, and the high prices, consequently, for that grain. There is a diversity of opinion as to whether this recovery of stocks is going to be permanent or not; the feeling among leading men on the Stock Exchange, however, is that it is to be permanent, and they point to the fact that the current market value of dividend-paying stocks is yet much below the average, and hence confidently predict a still higher rise.

SILVER.—The market for silver last week was dull and somewhat unsteady. In London, India Council bills declined, and the low interest rates in the great commercial cities of India also operated to depress the price. In spite of large government purchases, the stock of silver bullion in New York has increased and is now slightly over 5,000,000 ounces. In London the week opened with silver at 44⅞ pence per ounce, closing at 44 11-16 pence.

ON THE N. Y. STOCK EXCHANGE.

The Market Is Back in the Old Rut of Two Weeks Ago.

WALL STREET, 11 a. m.—The stock market this morning presented a marked contrast to those of the last two weeks in point of activity, and while the same stocks were still prominent in the dealings, the amount of business done in them was largely speculative, and the list was quite neglected. London prices were higher, but the opening figures here were irregular, but only slightly changed from last night's prices and while a firm tone prevailed the tendency of prices being upward, the fluctuations were insignificant in all cases until toward the end of the hour when the Industrials and Northern Pacific became specially weak and active. The selling movement was confined to the leading stocks and its effects were most apparent in sugar, which dropped 2 per cent to 87½, while others lost only fractional amounts, but the entire market was affected to some extent, and prices everywhere were brought back to the level of the opening. The weakness was of short duration, however, and sugar rallied about 1 per cent, and at 11 o'clock the market is quiet and steady to firm at about opening figures.

Noon.—Money is easy at 3@3½ per cent. The stock market sank into extreme dullness after 11 o'clock, and a slight upward tendency in the earlier dealings was followed by absolute stagnation in everything. No feature whatever was developed in the late dealings, and at noon the market was very dull and steady at about the level of the opening prices.

3 p. m.—Money closed easy at 3½ per cent.

Bar silver, 97½. The stock market was quiet and inclined to firmness after 1 o'clock and the some of the leading shares slight fractional were gained. The market, however, remained devoid of any feature of interest until toward 1 p. m., when a vigorous raid on North American was started which resulted in depressing the price of that stock from 16½ to 15¾. The movement affected the rest of the list to a limited extent, and sugar exhibited some weakness, retiring to 87¾ after selling 1 per cent higher but other movements were light. After 2 o'clock the market gradually disclosed both strength and activity, but no material improvement was made and no special feature of interest was shown in any part of the list and later weakness again overspread the list, the Grangers, North American and Sugar being most conspicuous. The market finally closed dull and heavy at insignificant changes from first prices.

BEECHAM'S PILLS
ACT LIKE MAGIC
ON A WEAK STOMACH.
25 Cents a Box.
OF ALL DRUGGISTS.

BABY HUMORS

ON FIRE WITH ECZEMA

Terrible Sufferings of Little Baby. Seven Doctors and Two Hospitals Fail. Cured by Cuticura.

My baby boy, 5 months old, broke out with eczema. The itching and burning was intense; the eczema spread to his limbs, breast, face and head, until he was nearly covered; his torturing agonies were pitiable to behold; he had no peace and but little rest night or day. He was under treatment at different times at two hospitals and by seven doctors in this city without the least benefit; every prescription of the doctors was faithfully tried, but he grew worse all the time. For months I expended about $3 per week for medicines, and was entirely discouraged. I purchased CUTICURA, CUTICURA SOAP and CUTICURA RESOLVENT, and followed the directions to the letter. Relief was immediate, his sufferings were eased, and rest and sleep permitted. He steadily improved and in nine weeks was entirely cured, and has now as clear a skin and is as fair a boy as any mother could wish to see. I recommend every mother to use it for every Baby Humor.

MRS. M. FERGUSON,
80 West Brookline st., Boston.

Cuticura Remedies

Are sold everywhere. Price, CUTICURA, the great Skin Cure, 50c; CUTICURA SOAP, an exquisite Skin Purifier and Beautifier, 25c; CUTICURA RESOLVENT, the new Blood Purifier, $1. Prepared by the POTTER DRUG AND CHEMICAL CORPORATION, Boston.

Send for "How to Cure Skin Diseases," 64 pages, 50 illustrations, and 100 testimonials.

BABY ONE SOLID SORE

Tried Everything Without Relief. No Rest Night or Day. Cured by Cuticura Remedies.

My baby, when two months old, had a breaking out with what the doctor called eczema. Her head, arms, feet and hands were each one solid sore. I tried everything, but neither the doctors nor anything else did her any good. We could get no rest day or night with her. In my extremity I tried the CUTICURA REMEDIES, but I confess I had no faith in them, for I had never seen them tried. To my great surprise, in one week's time after beginning to use the CUTICURA REMEDIES, the sores were well, but I continued to use the RESOLVENT for a little while, and now she is as fat a baby as you would like to see, and as sound as a dollar. I believe my baby would have died if I had not tried CUTICURA REMEDIES. I write this that every mother with a baby like mine can feel confident that there is a medicine that will cure the worst eczema, and that medicine is the CUTICURA REMEDIES.

MRS. BETTIE BIRKNER,
Lockhart, Texas.

Cuticura Remedies

Cure every humor of the skin and scalp of infancy and childhood, whether torturing, disfiguring, itching, burning, scaly, crusted, pimply or blotchy, with loss of hair, and every impurity of the blood, whether simple, scrofulous or hereditary, when the best physicians and all other remedies fail. Parents, save your children years of mental and physical suffering. Begin now. Cures made in childhood are permanent.

BAD ECZEMA ON BABY

Head One Solid Sore. Itching Awful. Had to Tie His Hands to Cradle. Cured by Cuticura.

Our little boy broke out on his head with a bad form of eczema when he was four months old. We tried three doctors, but they did not help him. We then used your three CUTICURA REMEDIES, and after using them eleven weeks exactly according to directions, he began to steadily improve, and after the use of them for seven months his head was entirely well. When we began using them his head was a solid sore from the crown to his eyebrows. It was also all over his ears, most of his face, and small places on different parts of his body. There were sixteen weeks that we had to keep his hands tied to the cradle and hold them when he was taken up, and had to keep mittens tied on his hands to keep his finger nails out of the sores, as he would scratch if he could in any way get his hands loose. We know your CUTICURA REMEDIES cured him. We feel safe in recommending them to others.

GEO. B. & JANETTA HARRIS,
Webster, Ind.

Cuticura Resolvent

The new Blood Purifier, internally (to cleanse the blood of all impurities and poisonous elements), and CUTICURA, the great Skin Cure, and CUTICURA SOAP, an exquisite Skin Beautifier, externally (to clear the skin and scalp and restore the hair), have cured thousands of cases where the suffering of scales, crusts, and a quart daily, the skin cracked, bleeding, burning and itching almost beyond endurance, hair lifeless or all gone, suffering terrible. What other remedies have made such cures?

WORST FORM ECZEMA

Baffled Best Medical Skill for Eight Months. Cured in Two Months by Cuticura Remedies.

This is to certify that a child of mine had Eczema in its worst form, and which baffled the best medical skill that could be employed here.

The little sufferer was wrapped in agony for at least eight months. Six months of that time its suffering was simply untold, and then I began the use of the CUTICURA REMEDIES, and in two months the awful disease had ceased its vengeance and my darling boy had rest, and to all appearance the disease had yielded, but I continued the medicine for several months after no trace could be seen of it on any part of his body.

The doctors here watched the disease with much interest, and could only say "Well done!" The case was known far and wide, and everybody was much surprised. But, thanks to you and your remedy, could there be anything on earth that would cause a father to rejoice it surely would be when the little innocent one could have such a remedy at hand. Very truly,

J. A. NICOLES, Bunker Hill, Ind.

Only Relief and Cure.

Words can scarcely do justice to the esteem in which these great skin cures, blood purifiers and greatest of humor remedies are held by the thousands upon thousands who have cured them of the most distressing and torturing forms of skin, scalp and blood disease, with loss of hair, from infancy to age, when the best physicians and all other remedies fail.

Sold everywhere. Price, CUTICURA, the great Skin Cure, 50c; CUTICURA SOAP, an exquisite Skin Purifier and Beautifier, 25c; CUTICURA RESOLVENT, the new Blood Purifier, $1. Prepared by the POTTER DRUG AND CHEMICAL CORPORATION, Boston.

Send for "How to Cure Skin Diseases," 64 pages, 50 illustrations and 100 testimonials.

CURED BY CUTICURA

A SCROFULOUS BOY.

Running Sores Covered His Body and Head. Bones Affected. Cured by Cuticura Remedies.

When six months old the left hand of our little grandchild began to swell, and it had every appearance of a large boil. We poulticed it, but all to no purpose. About five months after, it became a running sore. Soon other sores formed. He then had two of them on each hand, and as his blood became more and more impure, it took less time for them to break out. A sore came on the chin, beneath the under lip, which was very offensive. His head was one solid scab, discharging a great deal. This was his condition at twenty-two months old, when I undertook the cure of him, his mother having died when he was a little more than a year old, of consumption (scrofula, of course). He could walk a little, but could not get up if he fell down, and could not move when in bed, having no use of his hands. I immediately commenced with the CUTICURA REMEDIES, using all freely. One sore after another healed, a bony matter forming in each one of these five deep ones just before healing, which would finally grow loose and were taken out; then they would heal rapidly. One of these ugly bone formations I preserved. After taking a dozen and a half bottles he was completely cured, and is now, at the age of six years, a strong and healthy child.

MRS. E. S. DRIGGS.
MAY 9, 1885. 612 E. Clay St., Bloomington, Ill.
My grandson remains perfectly well. No signs of scrofula and no sores.
MARCH 12, 1891. MRS. E. S. DRIGGS, Bloomington, Ill.

Cured for All Time

The above is one of the most gratifying of the thousands of cures made by the CUTICURA REMEDIES, and is conclusive evidence that they not only cure the worst cases, but cure them for all time. Hence it is not surprising that mothers and children bless the CUTICURA REMEDIES.

RAW AS BEEFSTEAK.

Baby's Fearful Suffering from Skin Disease Covering Entire Body Cured by Cuticura.

My baby was taken very sick when he was 3 months old, and in a few days began breaking out. We employed both of the home doctors, and they could do nothing for him. Then we sent for the best doctor in Eaton Rapids, Mich., and he doctored him for two weeks, and he got worse all the time; and then I took him to Jackson, to a doctor who attends especially to skin diseases, and then he got worse than ever. Then I told my husband we had better try the CUTICURA REMEDIES any way; did not have any idea they would do any good, but in less than two months from the time we began giving them to him he was entirely well, and not a sore on him. His hair began growing right off, and we thought he would always be baldheaded. There was not a spot on his whole body, face and head, only his nose and ears, but what was as raw as beef-steak. So poor there was not anything but bones, and so weak he could raise neither hand nor head.

MRS. FRANK BARRETT,
Winfield, Mich.

Greatest Humor Remedies

It is one thing to claim to cure those great skin and blood diseases, but quite another thing to do it. No remedies ever compounded in the history of medicine have performed as wonderful cures daily made by the CUTICURA REMEDIES, which are in truth the greatest skin cures, blood purifiers, and humor remedies of modern times. We constantly receive letters from those suffering long and hopelessly from torturing and disfiguring humors and diseases of the skin, scalp and blood, and who have lost faith in doctors and medicine to make at least one trial of the CUTICURA REMEDIES.

TERRIBLE ITCHING.

Used Everything Five Months. Cured in Three Weeks by the Cuticura Remedies.

When my baby was 3 months old his cheeks and forehead began to break out with white pimples on red surface. In a few days itching commenced, which was terrible. After he would rub it matter would ooze from the points. In a short time it spread over the top of his head, then scabs soon formed on head and face. We used everything we could hear of for nearly five months. It grew worse all the time. I saw your advertisement of the CUTICURA REMEDIES in the Chicago Weekly. We purchased CUTICURA SOAP and a box of CUTICURA, and commenced their use. In three weeks' time there was not a sore or pimple, nor even a scar on head or face. He is 19 months old now, and has no signs of the disease. His scalp is healthy, and he has a beautiful head of hair. MRS. OSCAR JAMES,
Woodston, Rooks County, Kan.

Mothers, Do You Realize

How your little ones suffer when their tender skins are literally on fire with itching and burning eczemas and other itching, scaly and blotchy skin and scalp diseases? To know that a single application of the CUTICURA REMEDIES will, in the great majority of cases, afford instant and complete relief, permit rest and sleep, and point to a permanent and economical (because so speedy) cure, and not to use them without a moment's delay, is to be guilty of positive inhumanity. No greater legacy can be bestowed upon a child than a skin without blemish and a body nourished with pure blood.

BABY'S FACE WAS RAW

Distressing Itching Skin Disease Cured in One Month by the Cuticura Remedies.

When our boy was six weeks old he had a rash on his cheek. It spread on both cheeks and chin. His face was raw. I doctored with various remedies, but it got no better. My mother advised me to try the CUTICURA REMEDIES. I used them faithfully, and in one week the boy looked better. In one month he was c